



INSIDE MAN



GOP congressman from New York charged with insider trading

Republican U.S. Rep. Christopher Collins, center, leaves federal court, Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2018, in New York.

Associated Press

By TOM HAYS

NEW YORK (AP) — Republican U.S. Rep. Christopher Collins of New York was arrested Wednesday on

charges he fed inside information he gleaned from sitting on the board of a biotechnology corporation to his son, helping family and

friends dodge hundreds of thousands of dollars in losses when one of the company's drugs failed in a medical trial.

Collins, a staunch supporter of President Donald Trump who was among the first sitting members of Congress to endorse his candidacy

for the White House, pleaded not guilty to an indictment unsealed at a court in Manhattan.

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Gates, star witness against Manafort, concludes testimony

By CHAD DAY, STEPHEN BRAUN and ERIC TUCKER
Associated Press

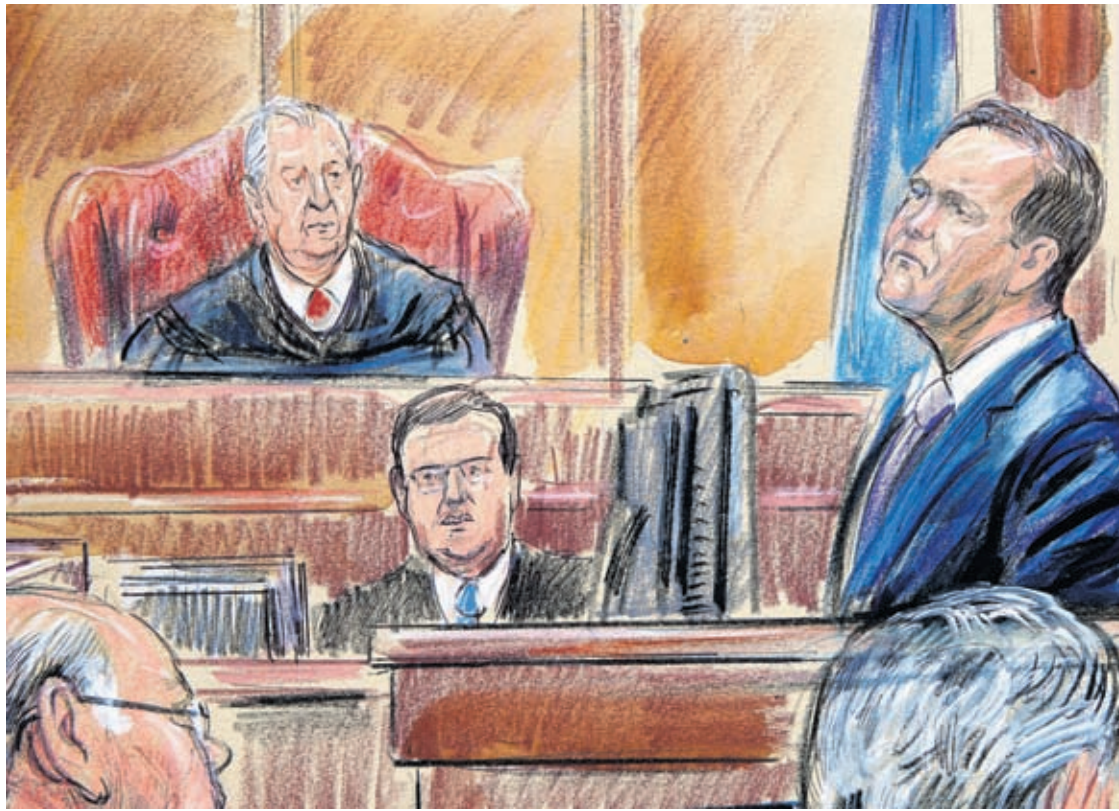
ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — Paul Manafort's protégé wrapped up his testimony Wednesday after implicating the former Trump campaign chairman and himself in financial crimes while also enduring stinging attacks on his character and credibility.

Rick Gates has been the government's star witness in Manafort's financial fraud trial, testifying how, at the behest of his longtime boss, he helped conceal millions of dollars in foreign income and submitted fake mortgage and tax documents. Defense lawyers saw an opening to undermine his testimony by painting him as liar and a philanderer, getting him to admit to an extramarital affair and reminding jurors how he had lied to special counsel Robert Mueller's team while working out a plea deal for himself.

The testimony, stretching across three days, created an extraordinary courtroom showdown between the two former Trump campaign aides who were indicted together by Mueller but who have since opted for radically different strategies: Manafort is the lone American charged by Mueller to opt for trial, whereas Gates pleaded guilty and agreed to cooperate by testifying against his former boss.

Neither man was charged in connection with their Trump campaign work, but the trial has nonetheless been a distraction for a president who insists Manafort was treated shabbily and who continues to publicly fume about Mueller's investigation into potential ties between his associates and the Kremlin. Prosecutors sandwiched the testimony of Gates around other witnesses who, in sometimes dry and detailed testimony, described Manafort's lavish spending and use of offshore accounts to stash Ukrainian political consulting fees.

A clothier said he sold



This courtroom sketch depicts Rick Gates on the witness stand as he is cross examined by defense lawyer Kevin Downing during the trial of former Donald Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort on bank fraud and tax evasion at federal court in Alexandria, Va., Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2018. U.S. District court Judge T.S. Ellis III presides.

Associated Press

Manafort more than \$900,000 in luxury clothes, a bookkeeper says she helped disguise foreign income as a loan to reduce Manafort's tax burden and, on Wednesday, an FBI forensic accounting specialist said Manafort hid more than 30 offshore accounts in three types of currencies from the IRS.

Overall, the accountant traced more than \$65 million flowing into offshore accounts controlled by Manafort, and she detailed for jurors how more than \$15.5 million flowed out to fund his lavish lifestyle between 2010 and 2014.

But it was Gates' testimony that has so far generated the most drama, as the witness admitted embezzling hundreds of thousands of dollars from his boss, confessed to an extramarital affair and turned in spectacular fashion against a longtime mentor.

Prosecutors relied on Gates to provide direct, first-hand support of the accusations against Manafort.

He told jurors how he disguised millions of dollars in foreign income as loans in order to lower Manafort's tax bill. He recounted how he and Manafort used more than a dozen off-

shore shell companies and bank accounts in Cyprus to funnel the money, all while concealing the accounts and the income from the IRS.

Prosecutors sought to soften the blow of the cross-examination by asking Gates to acknowledge his own crimes, including a lie to Mueller's team in February. But Gates nonetheless faced aggressive questioning by Manafort's lawyer, Kevin Downing, who at one point asked him, "After all the lies you've told and the fraud you've committed, you expect this jury to believe you?"

Downing made one last effort Wednesday to erode Gates' credibility as he tried to confront him over whether he had engaged in four extramarital affairs, instead of just the one that he had admitted to earlier in the trial.

But after a lengthy conference between lawyers, Downing asked Gates only about the time span of his "secret life."

Gates replied, "I made many mistakes over many years" before he stepped down from the witness stand.

Downing also sought to counter earlier testimony

that Manafort had encouraged Gates to deceive authorities. He got Gates to acknowledge that Manafort told him to be truthful about offshore shell companies and bank accounts during a 2014 interview with the FBI.

The interview was part of an FBI investigation that sought to recover assets looted from the Ukrainian government under the rule of former President Viktor Yanukovich.

Gates said under questioning Wednesday that he told FBI agents and Justice Department lawyers about some of the offshore companies that contained millions of dollars in proceeds from their Ukrainian political work.

But prosecutor Greg Andres followed up by suggesting that Gates and Manafort were not fully truthful.

"Did you tell the FBI that there was hidden income in those accounts?" Andres asked.

"No, I did not," Gates responded.

Once Gates finished testifying, prosecutors resumed trying to make their case through documentary evidence to demonstrate Manafort's control of offshore bank accounts con-

taining millions of dollars. None of those accounts were reported to the IRS as required by U.S. law.

An FBI forensic accountant, Morgan Magionos, told jurors bank records from Cyprus, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and the United Kingdom revealed the accounts were connected to Manafort and his associates.

She said Manafort's passport was used to open many of them in U.S. dollars, euros and British pounds.

Using charts, emails and financial and tax records, Magionos told jurors how she traced millions of dollars of payments for mortgages, home improvements, rugs and clothes back to his hidden foreign bank accounts. In one case, she alleged that foreign accounts were used by Manafort to pay for more than \$3.5 million in home improvements.

Konstantin Kilimnik, a man prosecutors say has ties to Russian intelligence, was also among the beneficial owners of some of the companies. Kilimnik is charged along with Manafort with witness tampering in a separate case. Gates was also listed as an owner of several of the accounts.

Also Wednesday, an IRS agent, Michael Welch, testified that Manafort didn't report at least \$16 million on his tax returns between 2010 and 2014. He also said Manafort should have reported multiple foreign bank accounts to the IRS in those years.

U.S. District Judge T.S. Ellis III repeatedly has interrupted prosecutors to encourage them to speed things along. He poked fun at himself Wednesday as he haggled with attorneys over the number and type of charts prosecutors could present during the testimony of the accountant.

"Judges should be patient. They made a mistake when they confirmed me. I'm not very patient, so don't try my patience," Ellis said.

Prosecutors say they have eight witnesses left and expect to rest their case by Friday afternoon. □

INSIDER TRADING

Continued from Front

The indictment charges Collins, his son and the father of the son's fiancée with conspiracy, securities fraud, wire fraud and making false statements to the FBI.

Speaking to reporters in Buffalo hours after his release on bail, Collins, 68, professed his innocence and said he would remain on the ballot for re-election this fall.

"I believe I acted properly and within the law at all times," he said. "I will mount a vigorous defense in court to clear my name. I look forward to being fully vindicated and exonerated."

Prosecutors said the charges stem from Collins' decision to share with his son insider information about Innate Immunotherapeutics Ltd., a biotechnology company headquartered in Sydney, Australia, with offices in Auckland, New Zealand. Collins was the company's largest shareholder, with nearly 17 percent of its shares, and sat on its board. According to the indictment, Collins was attending the Congressional Picnic at the White House on June 22, 2017, when he received an email from the company's chief executive saying that a trial of a drug the company developed to treat multiple sclerosis was a clinical failure.

Collins responded to the email saying: "Wow. Makes no sense. How are these results even possible???" the indictment said.

It said he then called his son, Cameron Collins, and, after several missed calls, they spoke for more than six minutes.

The next morning, according to the indictment, Cameron Collins began selling his shares, unloading enough over a two-day period to avoid \$570,900 in losses before a public announcement of the drug trial results. After the announcement, the company's stock price plunged 92 percent.

Prosecutors said the son passed the information to a third defendant, Stephen Zarsky. Their combined

trades avoided more than \$768,000 in losses, authorities said. They said Zarsky traded on it and tipped off at least three others.

U.S. Attorney Geoffrey S. Berman, a Republican, said Collins was supposed to keep the trial results secret. "Instead, he decided to commit a crime," he said. "Representative Collins, who, by virtue of his office, helps write the laws of this country, acted as if the law did not apply to him."

Collins, a conservative first elected in 2012 to represent parts of western New York between Buffalo and Rochester, has vehemently denied wrongdoing. When the House Ethics Committee began investigating the stock trades a year ago, his spokeswoman called it a "partisan witch hunt." All three defendants pleaded not guilty and were freed on \$500,000 bail.

In his Buffalo news conference, Collins acknowledged being disappointed that Innate's drug trials didn't go well. "We firmly believed we were on the verge of a medical breakthrough," he said.

But he said that even after learning of the setback, "I held on to my shares rather than sell them" as the law required.

He said the decision not to sell cost him millions of dollars.

"That's OK," he said. "That's the risk I took."

Collins has remained a vocal Trump supporter, most recently calling for an end to special counsel Robert Mueller's probe into possible campaign collusion and blaming Barack Obama's administration for failing to push back on Russia.

On Wednesday, House Speaker Paul Ryan, a Republican, said he was removing Collins from the House Energy and Commerce Committee, calling insider trading "a clear violation of the public trust."

In a written statement Wednesday, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said the charges against Collins "show the rampant

culture of corruption and self-enrichment among Republicans in Washington today."

Collins ran unopposed in the Republican primary and holds what's largely considered a safe Republican seat in a state that went to Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton in 2016. He's being challenged in November by Democrat Nate McMurray.

McMurray said Collins has brought shame to the region, but he stopped short of saying he should resign.

"That's his decision to make. I'll leave it up to him, but I know what I would do if I was in his place," said McMurray, the town supervisor in the Buffalo suburb of Grand Island.

The advocacy group Public Citizen filed a request for an investigation of Collins' stock dealings with the Office of Congressional Ethics and the Securities and Exchange Commission in January 2017.

Tom Price, who was Trump's first secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, also came under scrutiny for his purchases of Innate stock



Geoffrey Berman, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announces an indictment of Congressman Christopher Collins, (R-NY), Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2018, in New York.

Associated Press

while he was a Republican member of Congress from Georgia. Democrats made an issue of Price's purchase at his Senate confirmation hearings in early 2017, after the Wall Street Journal reported that company officials had said Price was allowed to buy the stocks at a low price. Price, who

bought about 400,000 shares of the stock, said he'd learned of the firm through Collins but said the price he received was available to any investor. Price resigned as health secretary last September under criticism for taking pricey charter flights at taxpayers' expense. □

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Republicans promote fear, not tax cuts, in key elections

By **STEVE PEOPLES** and **BILL BARROW**

WASHINGTON (AP) —

There's a border crisis in Pennsylvania. The radical left is surging in New Jersey. And Nancy Pelosi is a threat to New York.

Republican candidates in the nation's premiere mid-term battlegrounds have embraced a central message in their fight to maintain the House majority this fall — and it has little to do with the surging economy or the sweeping tax cuts that the GOP celebrated as a once-in-a-generation achievement just eight months ago.

Instead, as Republicans enter the final month of the primary season, they're looking ahead to a general-election strategy of embracing anxiety as a tool to motivate voters. That was clear this week as the GOP's closing message in an Ohio special election questioned Democrat Danny O'Connor's connection to Pelosi, the House Democratic leader and preferred super villain for Republicans.

"We wish it got the pitch forks out and it doesn't," GOP ad maker Will Ritter said of the Republican tax cuts.

Some Republican strategists are frustrated the party isn't focused on the tax law or the broader health of the economy in the run-up to Election Day. Others concede that in the Trump era, there's no better motivator than fear of the other side, particularly the prospect of Pelosi returning to the speaker's chair.

The plan had some success in Ohio: The race was too close to call Wednesday as Republican Troy Balderson maintained a razor-thin advantage over O'Connor, staving off an embarrass-

ing GOP debate for now. Going forward, the debate over highlighting the tax law will help determine

in a district that's been in Republican hands since before he was born. On the defensive, Balderson

Luntz said Trump energizes the Republican base, but that his broadsides and distractions will also alien-

stood it.

The tax debate comes amid new evidence of a Democratic surge in early elections across America.

Michigan Democrats will feature the state's first all-female statewide ticket this November following Tuesday's primary elections. Democrat Rashida Tlaib also won a race to run unopposed for the Detroit-area House seat vacated by John Conyers, making her poised to become the first Muslim woman in Congress. In Kansas, 38-year-old attorney Sharice Davids won her congressional primary and became the state's first Native American and gay nominee for Congress. Both Davids and Tlaib campaigned aggressively against the Republican tax cuts.

Beyond avoiding the tax law, there has been a consistent theme for Republicans across House battlegrounds: casting the Democrat as too liberal.

A National Republican Congressional Committee ad in Ohio tied Democratic candidate O'Connor to Pelosi and "the liberal resistance movement." A super PAC backed by House Speaker Paul Ryan charged that it was O'Connor who would cut Social Security and Medicare by \$800 billion; fact checkers have questioned the accuracy of the attack.

In central Kentucky, GOP Rep. Andy Barr is reminding voters that Amy McGrath, a former fighter pilot, voted for President Barack Obama and opposes Trump's proposed border wall. In suburban Pennsylvania, vulnerable Republican Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick has warned of "a border in crisis" and demanded a surge of immigration enforcement agents. □



Troy Balderson, Republican candidate for Ohio's 12th Congressional District, speaks to a crowd of supporters during an election night party Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2018, in Newark, Ohio.

Associated Press

whether Republicans will maintain control of Capitol Hill after November.

While Republicans are reluctant to engage on tax cuts, it's a fight Democrats — and their voters — want. "The tax cuts were for the top ... income earners," said George Stringer, a 58-year-old Democrat who lives in Detroit. "The rich keep getting richer, the poor keep getting poorer."

In Ohio, which hosted the season's final special election, O'Connor railed against the tax cuts as a giveaway to the rich that threatened Medicare and Social Security. While his Republican opponent may prevail, the 31-year-old Democrat trailed by less than 1 percentage point

appeared in a late ad sitting next to his ailing mother and promising that he wouldn't dismantle the social safety net.

It's somewhat similar to the problems Democrats faced in 2010, when they controlled the White House and Congress and managed to pass the most significant health care legislation since the creation of Medicare and Medicaid. They celebrated with President Barack Obama in the Rose Garden, only to run from it in the midterm elections that became a disaster for the party.

President Donald Trump, plagued by scandal and wed to his Twitter account, sits atop the struggle.

Republican pollster Frank

ate the swing voters who tip battleground House districts.

"This is political malpractice," he said. "You can't find me a time in modern times when the economy was this strong and the governing party was headed toward a potential political disaster like this."

Republicans are also reluctant to embrace their tax cuts because the benefits don't change the household budget for many Americans. The party predicts that will change next year when families file their first tax returns under the new law. But as electoral strategy, that's akin to Democrats in 2010 insisting voters would like the health care law once they under-



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Immigration raids in Nebraska, Minnesota target businesses

By MARGERY A. BECK
Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A large federal law enforcement operation conducted Wednesday targeted businesses in Nebraska and Minnesota that officials say knowingly hired — and mistreated — immigrants who are in the U.S. illegally.

The investigative arm of U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement — Homeland Security Investigations — led the operation that saw about a dozen businesses and plants raided and 17 business owners and managers indicted for fraud, wire fraud and money laundering.

Of those, 14 were taken into custody Wednesday and three were still being sought. Authorities also arrested more than 130 workers at various businesses, busing them to Grand Island, Nebraska, to be questioned and processed.

Most of the arrests occurred in northern Nebraska and southern Minnesota. Several of the businesses were in O'Neill, Nebraska, a town of about 3,000 about 160 miles (260 kilometers) northwest of Omaha. Officials said they were still looking to take three owners or managers into custody as part of the operation.

Special agent in charge Tracy Cormier described the operation as one of the largest in Homeland Security Investigations' 15-year history. Between 350 and 400 federal, state and local law enforcement officers worked together on the arrests, she said.

The focus of the operation is unusual in that it targeted business operators for arrest. Most immigration raids have targeted workers suspected of being in the country illegally.

"The whole investigation was initiated, basically, because we knew that these businesses were cheating these workers and cheating taxpayers and cheating their competition," Cormier said.

The businesses engaged in a scheme that used fraudulent names and Social Security numbers to employ people in the country illegally, she said. The businesses used "force, fraud, coercion, threat of arrest and/or deportation" to exploit the workers, Cormier said. The business that hired out the immigrants also forced the workers to cash their paychecks with that business for an exorbitant fee, officials said, and withheld taxes from workers' pay without paying those taxes to the government.

"It kind of reminds us of the revival of the old 'company store' policy, where it used to keep the coal miners indebted to the company for all kinds of services ... like check cashing," she said. Also arrested were 133 workers suspected of being in the country illegally, according to ICE. Some will be issued notices to appear before an immigration judge and released, while those with criminal backgrounds will remain in ICE custody.

The raids come as President Donald Trump's administra-



An ICE bus pulls out of a tomato plant in O'Neill, Neb., after an immigration raid at the plant Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2018.

Associated Press

tion has been carrying out high-profile immigration enforcement actions against employers.

Dozens of workers were arrested at a meatpacking plant in rural Tennessee in April, followed by agents rounding up more than 100 employees two months later at an Ohio gardening and landscaping company.

Immigration officials have also beefed up audits of companies to verify their employees are authorized to work in the country. Officials opened 2,282 employer audits in the first seven months of this fiscal year, many after audits at 100 7-Eleven franchises in 17 states in January.

On Wednesday, investigators served warrants at Elkhorn River Farms, hy-

droponic tomato grower O'Neill Ventures, La Herradura restaurant and grocery store El Mercadito, all in O'Neill. A private ranch outside O'Neill also was searched.

No phone number could be found for El Mercadito. Calls to the other businesses went unanswered or messages left were not returned.

Pork producing giant Christensen Farms saw search warrants served at its headquarters in Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, its truck wash facility in Appleton, Minnesota and a producer plant in Atkinson, Nebraska. Spokeswoman Amber Portner said the company was cooperating with agents. She said she knew of no arrests at any of the company's locations Wednesday.

Other businesses raided were in Stromsburg, Ainsworth, Bartlett and Royal, all in Nebraska.

Civil rights organizations in Nebraska were quick to denounce Wednesday's operation.

"The ACLU condemns this ongoing campaign of misery that targets immigrants, disrupts local businesses and separates families," Rose Godinez, an attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union of Nebraska, said in a written statement released Wednesday morning after news reports of the raid at O'Neill Ventures. The effect of such operations are the same whether they target businesses or immigrants, said Jeff Sheldon, spokesman for advocacy group Nebraska Appleseed. □

Court: State can base e-school funding on participation data

By KANTELE FRANKO and JULIE CARR SMYTH

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) —

Ohio had authority to calculate a giant online charter school's funding using student participation data rather than only enrollment, the state Supreme Court ruled Wednesday in the latest blow to the now-dismantled e-school.

The Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow, which had been among the nation's largest virtual schools, closed to its roughly 12,000 students in January but remains of interest to prosecutors reviewing audit findings and politicians raising accountability issues in a midterm election year.

The Associated Press reported in April allegations by a former ECOT employee that the school intentionally inflated attendance data in order to draw more state money, a claim largely validated in state audit findings that have been referred to criminal investigators.

ECOT had argued in court that Ohio's Department of Education overstepped its authority when it used stu-



In this May 9, 2017, file photo, Bill Lager, center in cap, co-founder of Ohio's largest online charter school, the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow or ECOT, speaks to hundreds of supporters during a rally outside the Statehouse in Columbus, Ohio.

Associated Press

dent learning time to determine the school owed the state a \$60 million refund from the 2015-16 school year. But justices sided with the state in a 4-2 decision affirming a lower court's ruling, concluding the department acted within its authority under Ohio law.

"We determine that (the law) is unambiguous and authorizes ODE to require an e-school to provide data of the duration of a student's participation to substantiate that school's funding," Justice Patrick Fischer wrote for the majority.

ECOT attorney Marion Little said the school was disappointed but would continue to pursue its administrative challenges to the Education Department in lower courts.

"The two dissenting opinions extensively detail why ECOT should have prevailed and why ECOT, the auditor's office, even ODE, had always applied an enrollment methodology," he said.

The department had argued that ECOT was interpreting state law as though it could receive full public funding for students without providing documentation to prove they were being educated. An attorney representing the department during arguments at the court in February likened the situation to the Internal Revenue Service accepting a person's expenses at face value for years and later asking them for receipts as documentation.

"Ultimately, this is what's

best for students and taxpayers alike," said Brittany Halpin, the department's spokeswoman.

"We're pleased the Ohio Supreme Court agreed with the department's interpretation of the law and we remain committed to ensuring that all community schools receive their correct funding."

The high court concluded that when lawmakers stated each student could receive no more than 10 hours of credit per school day, they set up a need for documentation of students' activities.

"This calculation can be made only by referring to records that contain evidence of the duration of a student's participation in learning opportunities," Fischer wrote.

Justices Terrence O'Donnell and Sharon Kennedy dissented, arguing their colleagues were misinterpreting the 10-hour limit. They urged the Legislature to clarify the law. Justice Pat DeWine, whose father is the Republican nominee for governor, recused himself in the case.

Little, ECOT's lawyer, said Wednesday's ruling leaves Ohio's e-schools without any specific standard or rule to follow in order to receive state dollars.

"There's nothing that informs an e-school as to the standard that must be met to receive funding, nor, given that the school funding is to 'follow the child,' is there any answer from ODE as to what happens to the state-mandated funding for an e-school student who, for example, misses a day of school because of illness," he said.

Democrats who have argued for transparency and accountability at ECOT for years immediately jumped on the ruling as a victory.

"Senate Democrats have been saying for years that ECOT and other publicly funded online charter schools need to be held accountable, and the Supreme Court's decision today confirms that we were right," said state Sen. Joe Schiavoni, a Youngstown-area Democrat.

The state had determined that ECOT should repay about \$60 million in unsubstantiated funding from 2015-16 and \$19 million more from the following year. The cash-strapped school shut down after the state started recouping money, which left students scrambling for other options mid-school-year.

Noting that many students turned to ECOT because illnesses, disabilities, bullying or other circumstances made traditional school environments challenging for them, some of the students refused to return to brick-and-mortar public schools and instead enrolled at other e-schools or tried homeschooling.

ODE has said thousands of ECOT students switched to other schools.

Some of them expressed hope of returning to ECOT if it could reopen, but the lengthy legal battle and the auctioning of ECOT's equipment and other property and sale of its building seem to have sunk those prospects.

Ahead of the auction, the state auditor took steps to preserve data from ECOT's administrative computers in case a criminal case arises. □

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Emergency declared ahead of Charlottesville anniversary

By ALAN SUDERMAN
RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam and the city of Charlottesville on Wednesday declared a state of emergency ahead of the one-year anniversary of a violent white nationalist rally that left one person dead and dozens of others injured. Officials said the declaration would streamline state and local operations this weekend while also allocating \$2 million in state funds. The declaration authorizes the Virginia National Guard to assist in security efforts. Law enforcement officials said there will be a heavy police presence meant to deter any violence. Virginia State Police Superintendent Gary Settle said more than 700 state police will be activated during the weekend and "state police is fully prepared to act" to prevent any incidents like last year. Only one organizer of last summer's rally in Charlottesville seems intent on publicly marking the anniversary. Jason Kessler has vowed to press ahead with plans for an Aug. 12 rally in Washington, D.C., after Charlottesville denied him a permit. Authorities faced unrelenting criticism for their handling of last year's rally and an independent review that found serious police and government failures in responding to violence at the "Unite the Right" rally. It drew hundreds of white nationalists from across the country to the Virginia college town. Chaos erupted before the event even began, with participants and counter-protesters brawling in the street. Later, a woman was killed when a car drove into a crowd protesting against the white nationalists, and dozens more were injured. The man accused in that attack, James Alex Fields of Ohio, has been charged with first-degree murder. Two state troopers who had been monitoring the event also were killed when their helicopter crashed. The independent review by former U.S. Attorney Tim Heaphy was sharply critical of both the city and state police, saying both "failed to 'stand up' to protect human life. Several city officials left their jobs in the months after the rally. The city attorney took a new job, the city manager's contract was not renewed, a spokeswoman quit and the police chief, who was 50 at the time, retired after less than two years on the job. Several peaceful events are planned in Charlottesville to commemorate last year's event and promote racial healing. The city is planning to establish a "defined security area" downtown where weapons will be banned. Charlottesville Police Chief RaShall Brackney said the goal for that community is to have a peaceful weekend. □

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In this Aug. 12, 2017, file photo, people fly into the air as a vehicle drives into a group of protesters demonstrating against a white nationalist rally in Charlottesville, Va.

Associated Press

human life. Several city officials left their jobs in the months after the rally. The city attorney took a new job, the city manager's contract was not renewed, a spokeswoman quit and the police chief, who was 50 at the time, retired after less than two years on the job. Several peaceful events are planned in Charlottesville to commemorate last year's event and promote racial healing. The city is planning to establish a "defined security area" downtown where weapons will be banned. Charlottesville Police Chief RaShall Brackney said the goal for that community is to have a peaceful weekend. □

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Court upholds ex-Stanford swimmer's sex assault conviction

By PAUL ELIAS
Associated Press
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — An appeals court on Wednesday rejected a former Stanford University swimmer's bid for a new trial and upheld his sexual assault conviction. The three-judge panel of the 6th District Court of Appeal in San Jose ruled Wednesday that there was "substantial evidence" that Brock Turner received a fair trial. In 2016, a jury convicted Turner of sexually assaulting an intoxicated and unconscious woman outside an on-campus fraternity party. The Associated Press doesn't generally identify sexual abuse victims. Judge Aaron Persky rejected a prosecutor's demand for a lengthy prison term and instead sentenced Turner to six months in jail. He was released from jail in September 2016 after serving three months. In December 2017, Turner appealed the conviction, arguing he didn't receive a fair trial. Judge Franklin Elia writing for the unanimous panel said there was "substantial evidence" to support the conviction, including "substantial evidence" to show Turner knew his victim was unconscious when he assaulted her. Persky's sentence sparked nationwide outrage by those who felt it too lenient. Voters recalled Persky in June. The sentence was not part of the appeal and the judges didn't address it. Turner could petition the California Supreme Court to consider his appeal. Turner's attorney Eric Multhaup didn't return a phone call Wednesday. Stanford law professor Michelle Dauber, who led the judge's recall campaign, called on Turner to drop any further appeals. "The appellate court has now rejected that idea and I think everyone, including Brock Turner, would be better served by accepting the jury's verdict and moving on," she said. Turner lives outside Dayton, Ohio, with his parents. He is required to register as a sex offender for life. □

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In this Sept. 2, 2016, file photo, Brock Turner leaves the Santa Clara County Main Jail in San Jose, Calif.

Associated Press

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Chile's Michelle Bachelet to be new UN human rights chief

By EDITH M. LEDERER

UNITED NATIONS (AP) —

Secretary-General Antonio Guterres selected Chile's former President Michelle Bachelet on Wednesday to be the next U.N. human rights chief, a high profile and often controversial job that has sparked criticism from governments targeted for rights abuses.

Guterres sent a note to the General Assembly announcing his choice of Bachelet and urging approval by its 193 member states. Assembly President Miroslav Lajcak followed up, sending letters to all U.N. ambassadors saying a meeting will take place Friday morning to vote on her nomination, which is virtually certain to be approved. Bachelet is no stranger to human rights abuses.

The daughter of an air force general, she was a medical student when Marxist President Salvador Allende was overthrown in a coup in September 1973. Her father, Gen. Alberto Bachelet, was imprisoned for treason for opposing the coup and then-23-year-old Michelle and her mother were tortured in a secret



In this Sept. 21, 2016 file photo, then Chilean President Michelle Bachelet speaks during the 71st session of the United Nations General Assembly at U.N. headquarters.

Associated Press

prison for two weeks before they fled into exile. Following months of torture, her father died of cardiac arrest in March 1974.

Bachelet has also been a

pioneer for women and women's rights as a pediatrician, a moderate socialist politician, and a single mother of three.

She was the first female

president of Chile, in 2006-2010, and was tapped by then Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to be the first head of UN Women, an agency that was created

in July 2010 by the General Assembly to combine four U.N. bodies dealing with gender equality and the advancement of women under a single umbrella.

In 2013, Bachelet returned to Chile to run for president again and was elected and served a second term in 2014-2018.

Before Guterres' announcement, Kenneth Roth, executive director of Human Rights Watch, said: "If selected, Bachelet will be taking on one of the world's most difficult jobs at a moment when human rights are under widespread attack."

"As a victim herself, she brings a unique perspective to the role on the importance of a vigorous defense of human rights," Roth said in a statement. "People worldwide will depend on her to be a public and forceful champion, especially where offenders are powerful." If confirmed by the General Assembly, Bachelet would replace Zeid Ra'ad Al-Hussein, a Jordanian diplomat and member of the country's royal family whose four-year term ends Aug. 31. □

UK prince, prime minister mark centenary of Battle of Amiens

Associated Press

AMIENS, France (AP) —

Britain's Prince William and Prime Minister Theresa May, joined by ministers and ambassadors from Allied countries and a former German president, marked on Wednesday the centenary of the Battle of Amiens — a short, bloody and decisive confrontation in northern France that heralded the end of World War I.

Chilling readings by May and others recounted the Allied offensive in the eyes of those who fought, including a private, a tank captain, a commander present in the pre-dawn hours of Aug. 8, 1918 for the opening salvos of the combined air and ground assault by soldiers from Britain, Australia, Canada, the United States and France. They quickly began to push

back German troops to turn the tide on the Western Front.

Each country was represented at the commemoration of the battle that is widely seen as a turning point, leading to the four-month-long Hundred Days Offensive, a string of battlefield successes that led to the Allied victory consecrated three months later by the Nov. 11 Armistice.

Also present was former German President Joachim Gauck.

Prince William, the Duke of Cambridge, addressing the gathering, hailed "the cooperation without which victory was impossible."

"It is entirely fitting, therefore, that today that same international coalition has returned to Amiens with our former enemy, in peace and partnership," he said.



Britain's Prince William, left, gestures as he arrives at the Amiens cathedral, northern France, Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2018.

Associated Press

A British youth choir took part in the moving ceremony under the towering columns of the vast 13th century Amiens Cathedral, which was sandbagged at the time to protect it during a series of battles in the

northern Picardy region. The emblematic cathedral now contains a Chapel of the Allies.

William and May lingered after the nearly 90-minute ceremony to talk with people in attendance, ap-

parently descendants of soldiers who fought in the Battle of Amiens, as they were scheduled to do.

The Battle of Amiens saw tens of thousands of soldiers pour into the region, more than 1,900 French and British aircraft and more than 500 tanks from Britain's Tank Corps.

The momentum from the first day of battle continued and convinced the Germans that the war was unwinnable.

"The effect of the war was moral and not territorial," May, in her reading, quoted then-British Prime Minister David Lloyd George as writing.

French Defense Minister Florence Parly represented France at the commemoration. President Emmanuel Macron, who comes from Amiens, was not present. □

Italian premier asked Trump for info on Iran nuclear status

By TRISHA THOMAS

ROME (AP) — Italian Premier Giuseppe Conte said Wednesday his country is willing to consider a "more rigorous" stance toward Iran, adding that he recently asked U.S. President Donald Trump to share intelligence about Iran's alleged nuclear program that has triggered fresh U.S. sanctions.

Conte told reporters at a news conference in Rome that Italy would hope to coordinate any initiatives with European Union partners in the aftermath of re-imposed U.S. sanctions against Iran.

Italy isn't part of the 2015 deal under which the United States and other world powers eased economic sanctions in exchange for curbs on Iran's nuclear program, but the Italian government did support the accord when it was signed. Trump pulled out of the deal earlier this year, and this week the United States re-imposed sanctions.

Referring to U.S. intelligence



Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte gestures as he talks during his press conference at Chigi Palace in Rome, Italy, Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2018.

Associated Press

on Iran's nuclear situation, Conte said, "I asked President Trump to share elements of concern." The two leaders met at the White house last week.

Pressed to be more specific, Conte replied that in

his meeting with Trump: "I didn't take a specific stand. I said we are willing to evaluate the necessity to take more rigorous stances if the (nuclear) accord is shown to be ineffective."

"We are waiting to have el-

ements" of intelligence, the premier said, adding that Italy would like to evaluate it with its EU partners.

The European Union has staunchly defended the 2015 nuclear accord, which was signed by Chi-

na, France, Germany, Russia, Britain and the United States. Trump has raised the possibility of retaliation against companies which do business with Iran.

Italy traditionally has been a major trading partner with Iran. But Italian energy giant ENI earlier this year closed down its business in Iran, and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles long ago reduced exposure there.

Conte said Italy will be "hyper-sensitive" to repercussions on Italian businesses and would act to "limit as much as possible the negative impact," saying there have already been signs indicating such an impact.

According to the Italy-Iran Chamber of Commerce, Italian exports to Iran in 2017 were worth 1.7 billion euros (\$1.9 billion), with machinery being the main product to be exported, followed by power generators, chemical products and pharmaceuticals. Italian imports from Iran, mainly crude oil, were worth 3.4 billion euros (\$3.9 billion). □

Australia's most populous state entirely in drought

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)

— Australia's most populous state was declared entirely in drought on Wednesday and struggling farmers were given new authority to shoot kangaroos that compete with livestock for sparse pasture during the most intense dry spell in more than 50 years.

Much of Australia's southeast is struggling with drought. But the drought conditions in New South Wales state this year have been the driest and most widespread since 1965.

The state government said Wednesday that 100 percent of New South Wales' land area of more than 800,000 square kilometers (309,000 square miles) was now in drought.

Primary Industries Minister Niall Blair said farmers were enduring one of the driest Southern Hemisphere winters on record.

"This is tough. There isn't a person in the state that isn't hoping to see some rain for our farmers and regional communities," Blair said in a statement. Farm reservoirs

have dried up and crops are failing. State and federal governments are providing financial help, but not enough for many farmers.

With dry conditions forecast to continue for the next three months, farmers had to decide whether to continue the expensive and laborious task of hand-feeding cattle and sheep or sell their livestock. The government would have been better off subsidizing professional shooters to reduce kangaroo numbers more humanely, he said. □



In this June 4, 2018, photo, Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, looks at dry soil with farmers during a visit to Strathmore Farm 485 kilometers (300 miles) north west of Sydney.

Associated Press

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Druze army vets campaign against Israel's Jewish state law

By ILAN BEN ZION

Associated Press

AHIHUD, Israel (AP) — Anwar Saeb spent two decades in the Israeli military, rising to the rank of colonel and suffering wounds in battle while serving as a brigade commander during the 2006 war in Lebanon.

Now, the 51-year-old lawyer, a member of Israel's Arabic-speaking Druze minority, finds himself on the front lines of a different and unlikely battle — leading a campaign against a contentious new law that critics say sidelines minority groups.

Tens of thousands of Druze Israelis, along with Jewish supporters, thronged a Tel Aviv square on Saturday night in a rare demonstration against government policy by the typically muted community. Saeb and Amal Assad, a retired brigadier general, led the protest.

For Saeb, the campaign is especially painful. The Druze minority is fiercely loyal to the state and well-integrated in society, yet its members feel betrayed by the new "Nation-State" law. "We don't think it's good for the Jewish people. It's not good for the state of Israel," he told The Associated Press at his office, which has been turned into the "Headquarters of the Nation-State Law Protest."

Israeli and multicolored Druze flags covered nearly every inch of the walls, and his desk was stacked with posters bearing a Jewish Star of David in the Druze colors: green, red, yellow, blue and white.

The law, sponsored by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud party and passed by parliament last month, endorsed the country's identity as the nation-state of the Jewish people. But it also downgraded Arabic from an official language to one of "special standing" and emphasized "developing Jewish settlement as a national value."

Advocates of the law say it merely enshrines the state's existing character and upholds the rights of minority groups in a democratic



In this Saturday, Aug. 4, 2018 file photo, Israelis from the Druze community participate in a rally against a contentious new law, in Tel Aviv, Israel.

Associated Press

society. But critics say it turned the country's Arab minority — 20 percent of the population — into second-class citizens. The law has faced both civil opposition and legal protests, including multiple challenges in the Supreme Court.

Netanyahu's government has had a strained relationship with much of the Arab minority. Many oppose his hard-line policies toward their Palestinian brethren in the West Bank and Gaza or remain scarred by his 2015 election-day attempt to galvanize supporters by warning that Arabs were voting in "droves."

But the backlash among the Druze is surprising and potentially politically damaging.

The Druze belong to a small secretive sect that splintered off Shiite Islam in the Middle Ages, with populations concentrated in the mountainous areas of Lebanon, Syria and Israel.

Less than 1 percent of the population, Israel's 130,000 Druze carry outsized influence in the country.

Unlike the Muslim and Christian Arab minorities, Israeli Druze are drafted to the military and many strongly identify as Israeli. Most live in hilltop towns and villages in the Galilee, where memorials honor the more than 500 Druze soldiers and police officers killed in the line of duty.

They have risen to senior military positions and have served as senior ministers and diplomats.

Saeb said there was no conflict between his Israeli and Druze identities, likening it to the dual identity of American Jews. How would they feel, he asked, if the U.S. passed a law stating the country was a Christian nation?

"We Druze decided before the foundation of the state (in 1948) to go with the Jews, and if the Jews bite

the dust, we go down with them," Saeb said. "We're not connected to the Jews to protect them, we don't serve the Jews. We're not loyal temporarily. We're loyal to our home. This is my home."

Speakers at Saturday's rally said that special relationship between the Jews and Druze had suffered a major blow because of the Nation-State Law.

A handful of Druze soldiers in the Israeli military criticized the law on social media, breaking military rules that prohibit soldiers from expressing political opinions.

Lt. Amir Jmall wrote in a post directed at Netanyahu that he, his brothers, and father all served in the military and in return are treated like "second class citizens" by the law.

"I don't want to continue and I am sure that hundreds of other people will stop serving and be re-

leased from the military because of your decision," Jmall said. He did not respond to requests to be interviewed.

Anat Baeeny Kara, a Druze woman volunteering in the protest campaign, said her 17-year-old son is set to enlist in the Israeli military next year, and feared the nation-state law would turn Israel into a "racist state."

"I always wanted my son to have a military career. I want him to safeguard the country's security." She said she's still telling her son he must serve, "but there's a feeling of being a mercenary, of not being an equal citizen."

Netanyahu met last week with Druze leaders in a bid to assuage concerns. According to Israeli media reports, Netanyahu cut the meeting short after Assad, Saeb's fellow protest leader, warned the law would "lead to apartheid."

Despite the rally, Netanyahu doubled down on his defense of the law on Sunday, saying it doesn't harm any citizens and was needed to "ensure the future of Israel as the state of the Jewish people for generations to come."

Saeb says the law could be fixed by adding one clause: "equality for all citizens."

The protest leaders have called for Israel's declaration of independence, which enshrines protection of minority rights, to supplant the new legislation. Issued in May 1948, it proclaimed the country as the Jewish homeland, rebuilt after 2000 years of exile. But it also called for the "development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants." It guarantees "complete equality of social and political rights to all inhabitants irrespective of religion, race, or sex."

Saeb said that he himself has never "felt second class" as a Druze in Israel, and his qualm is solely with government policies.

"I'm fighting so that the state doesn't become second-class, because laws like this turn it into second-class state," he said. □



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Zimbabwean opposition official denied asylum, being deported

By FARAI MUTSAKA

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) —

A top Zimbabwean opposition official fled to Zambia on Wednesday but was denied asylum and is expected to face arrest at home as concerns rose over a government crackdown after last week's disputed presidential election.

Tendai Biti, a former finance minister and a leader of the opposition Movement for Democratic Change, said he is going to be deported, according to Dewa Mavhinga, southern Africa director with Human Rights Watch.

Mavhinga said Biti told him: "It looks like they have made a decision to hand us back to the junta. We are truly in God's hands."

Zambia's foreign minister, Joseph Malanji, said the reasons Biti gave for seeking asylum "did not have merit, so he is being held in safe custody and we are trying to take him back to Zimbabwe." As legal and rights activists attempted to put together an urgent appeal, they questioned how an asylum case could be processed in mere hours.

Biti's plight follows scenes of the military opening fire in the streets of Zimbabwe's capital a week ago, killing six people, and growing opposition claims of harassment. The events have challenged assertions by newly elected President Emmerson Mnangagwa of a "flowering" of democracy after longtime leader Robert Mugabe stepped down in November under military pressure.

The MDC has denounced Mnangagwa's July 30 elec-



In this July, 18, 2012 file photo Tendai Biti, stands outside the Parliament Building in Harare, Zimbabwe.

Associated Press

tion victory as fraudulent and vowed to challenge it in court this week.

Biti, one of the most vocal government critics, had declared before the official election results were announced Friday that opposition leader Nelson Chamisa had won, a claim also made by Chamisa himself.

"In a normal country, Chamisa would be sworn in right now," Biti told reporters a day after the election. The Zimbabwe Electoral Commission has said it is illegal to release results before its own official announcement.

Mnangagwa was more restrained during the vote count, saying only that the situation looked positive. However, some reporting in state-run media declared him the winner before the

commission did.

The opposition has seven days from the commission's announcement to file a court challenge, and Chamisa lawyer Thabani Mpofu said the MDC will do so. That would delay Mnangagwa's inauguration planned for Sunday.

Biti was named along with Chamisa in a search warrant issued last week that said they and several others were suspected of the crimes of "possession of dangerous weapons" and "subversive material" as well as "public violence," according to a copy seen by The Associated Press.

Police raided the MDC headquarters Aug. 2, a day after the military rolled into Harare and dispersed opposition protesters by force, killing six people. They had been angered over the an-

nouncement that Mnangagwa's ZANU-PF party had won most of the seats in parliament.

"We condemn the murders of compatriots. We call for restraint," Biti tweeted after the crackdown.

Biti's arrest and the crackdown by the security services "have exacerbated an already volatile situation," said Piers Pigou, senior consultant for southern Africa for the International Crisis Group. "This raises further concerns about the direction the government is moving at a time it needs to be providing leadership for all Zimbabweans."

Chamisa on Wednesday night denounced the treatment of Biti, calling the "persecution" of him and other opposition leaders by the state "unjustified & unacceptable."

International election observers and Human Rights Watch have condemned the violence and intimidation against opposition supporters, urging security forces to use restraint. Mnangagwa badly needs the approval of the foreign election observers to show the vote was credible so that international sanctions against the southern African nation could be lifted. Under Mugabe, Zimbabwe was dogged by charges of rigged and fraudulent elections, along with violence against opposition figures. In one of the most famous incidents, opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai suffered a fractured skull and internal bleeding in 2007 when he and other MDC leaders were arrested and beaten. He died of cancer earlier this year.

"We are back to 2008," said Zimbabwean political analyst Alexander Rusero, referring to violence that marked that year's elections. "Violence is the only language that this regime understands but these actions are killing any hopes of re-engaging with the West."

Biti had said months before the election that the Zimbabwean military was casting a shadow over hopes for genuine reform.

He said that while the ouster of Mugabe after 37 years in power was welcome, the military takeover that led to his resignation set a dangerous precedent for the involvement of generals in civilian affairs.

"The genie is out of the bottle," Biti said in June. □

Venezuela top court orders lawmakers arrested



In this Dec.13, 2017 file photo, president of Venezuelan parliament Julio Borges leaves after receiving Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought, award given to Venezuela's opposition, in Strasbourg, France.

Associated Press

By SCOTT SMITH
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuela's Supreme Court on Wednesday ordered the arrest of a prominent opposition leader in connection with an alleged assassination attempt against President Nicolas Maduro.

In addition to seeking the arrest of Julio Borges, the court also called for the prosecution of another op-

position lawmaker, Juan Requesens, who police detained a day earlier.

The moves threaten to deepen the country's political crisis as opposition lawmakers accuse the government's ruling part of using the alleged attack to clamp down on the opposition.

Video circulating Tuesday on social media showed Venezuela's political police arresting Requesens, a

29-year-old deputy in the opposition-controlled National Assembly. Supporters say he was kidnapped from his apartment.

On Wednesday, the supreme court ordered the arrest of Borges, accusing him of "flagrant crimes," including public incitement, treason to the fatherland and the attempted homicide against Maduro.

During a national television broadcast Tuesday, Maduro accused Requesens and Borges of complicity in weekend drone explosions that he contends were an attempt on his life. Borges has been living in exile in Colombia.

The head of Venezuela's pro-government constitutional assembly said he would have the body take up a proposal to strip both lawmakers of their immunity protections, drawing cries from anti-government lawmakers that such a move would be unconstitutional. Maduro said statements from some of the six suspects arrested earlier have

implicated the two lawmakers, as well as key financiers.

"Several of the declarations indicated Julio Borges. The investigations point to him," Maduro said during Tuesday's broadcast, though he provided no details of Borges' alleged role.

Borges, who lives in exile in the Colombian capital, Bogota, rejected the accusations on Twitter, saying Maduro was trying to cast blame for Venezuela's economic crisis that has included cash shortages, hyperinflation and rampant unemployment. "You're not fooling anybody," Borges said, calling the drone attack a "farce" staged to justify the persecution of opponents. Two drones armed with explosives detonated near Maduro as he spoke during a military celebration Saturday evening. Images on live television showed Maduro and his wife looking up at the sky as the first drone exploded, sending hundreds of soldiers scrambling for safety.

The six suspects arrested earlier face charges of treason, attempted murder and terrorism. Investigators have linked a total of 19 people to the attack, Chief Prosecutor Tarek William Saab said Wednesday. Critics of Maduro's socialist government said immediately after the drone explosions that they feared the unpopular leader would use the incident as an excuse to round up opponents as he seeks to dampen spreading discontent over Venezuela's devastating economic collapse.

As elected lawmakers, Borges and Requesens enjoy immunity from prosecution under Venezuelan law. But Diosdado Cabello, the powerful leader of the ruling United Socialist Party of Venezuela and president of the National Constitutional Assembly, said in a tweet that he planned to introduce legislation stripping them and any other lawmakers accused in the alleged attack of this protection. □

Argentina Senate begins debate on historic abortion law

By ALMUDENA CALATRAVA
Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Argentina's Senate on Wednesday began debating a bill that would legalize elective abortion in the first 14 weeks of pregnancy in the homeland of Pope Francis, setting up a vote that could reverberate around the region.

The lower house of Congress has already passed the measure and Argentine President Mauricio Macri says he will sign it if approved by the Senate. A vote could come Wednesday or early Thursday. The Senate also could modify the bill and return it to the lower house.

Argentina now allows abortion only in cases of rape or risks to a woman's health and activists say 3,000 women have died of illegal abortions since 1983. Opponents, meanwhile, insist life begins at conception and complain the bill could



A demonstrator in support of decriminalizing abortion shouts outside Congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2018.

Associated Press

force doctors to perform the procedure even when they believe it is hazardous. The issue has bitterly divided Argentines, pitting conservative doctors and the Roman Catholic Church against feminist groups and other physicians.

Hundreds of physicians have staged anti-abortion protests, in one case laying their white medical coats on the ground outside the

presidential palace. Feminist groups, in turn, have held protests, often wearing green that symbolizes their movement or outfits based on author Margaret Atwood's "The Handmaid's Tale."

Daiana Anadon, leader of the feminist Wave, said she and hundreds of other women will remain outside the legislature "until the final moment because we

believe the power of the street will move the situation."

International human rights and women's groups are following the vote, and figures such as U.S. actress Susan Sarandon and Canadian author Atwood have supported the pro-abortion cause in Argentina.

Jose Miguel Vivanco, director for the Americas at Human Rights Watch, said Argentina has a "historic opportunity" to protect the rights of women. Amnesty International has told Argentine legislators that "the world is watching."

Catholic and evangelical groups protested abortion with the slogan, "Argentina, filicide (killing one's children) will be your ruin."

Women's movements across South America have been pushing against decades-old abortion prohibitions.

In neighboring Brazil, supporters and opponents of

abortion recently testified before the Supreme Federal Tribunal in an extraordinary session on whether to allow elective abortions during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy.

In Brazil, which is home to the world's largest population of Catholics and fast-growing evangelical faiths, abortion carries a punishment of up to three years in prison. There are three exceptions: if a woman is raped, pregnancy puts her life in danger, or the fetus is brain-dead.

In Chile, the Constitutional Court last year upheld legislation ending the Andean nation's absolute ban on abortions, permitting the procedure when a woman's life is in danger, when a fetus is not viable and in cases of rape.

Demonstrations in support of the Argentine abortion bill were also held in countries such as Bolivia and Mexico. □

LOCAL



Casa Del Mar Beach Resort honors Jessica Alders for her 40 years of outstanding work



EAGLE BEACH — Tuesday morning Casa Del Mar Beach Resorts honored Jessica Alders for her 40 years of outstanding work at the Resort. Jessica works as Member Relations Coordinator and handles everything member or visitor related, she's been here since the beginning of the hotel and wishes to still work a couple years more at this wonderful resort.

Jessica Alders was referred by her sister to apply for an open position at Aruba Beach Club and started working on August 7th 1978, as a reservation clerk handling everything reservations related. She worked at this position for almost 8 years and then changed to Member Relations Coordinator, after the Casa del Mar Resort was in 1986, she worked for both resorts until they split, then she started working solely for Casa del Mar.

In the beginning she had to

adapt to the new technology, typewriters where new back then and also the whole process of information going from paperwork to digital but besides that she loved and still loves to work with people and new visitors. Her greatest joy is when the owners and guests, finally meet her in person, usually the visitors make their arrangements with her via email or telephone, but love her service so much that when they arrive at the resort they want to meet Jessica in person.

Jessica is an inspiration for many, she's been through many changes with the resort since she started working and now forty years later she still loves her job and is willing to work for many more years.

About Casa Del Mar Beach Resort

Casa del Mar features gorgeously appointed two-bedroom, two-bath luxury

oceanfront and poolside timesharing Presidential Suites with full kitchens and complete facilities for six persons or economical one-bedroom one-bath Ambassador Suites, which sleep four people with their own pool in a private courtyard, all with balconies or patios.

Adventure seeking enthusiasts will find a myriad of on-site and nearby water and land-based activities as well as Matthew's Restaurant and Beach Bar for fine dining in an over-sized open air Tiki Hut right on the beach.

Just a short taxi ride from Queen Beatrix International Airport with service by major airlines from North and South America and Europe and Aruba's colorful capital city of Oranjestad with fabulous shopping and nightlife, Casa del Mar is treasured by owners and guests alike. □

Our locals, Our pride.



tell the story of our ancestors and our heritage. That is why he is trying to "rescue" all artifacts that tell a story of our past.

The collection started in his garage at home. More and more artifacts were gathered that it even got so crowded that he started putting them in his living room and continued to spread all over the house. That is where the idea came up to open up his house for the public. The need to educate specially kids but also people of all ages about our history and our ancestors is what lead him to open his own museum at his house. He feels joy when seeing kids interested

in knowing the history of the artifact, how it works, especially since kids nowadays only know the digital era and everything is so easy to get. He also loves to share his knowledge of these artifacts and their original names in our Papiamentu language.

At his museum you will find artifacts dated from the early 1600's. From antique furniture, pots, pans, musical instruments, paintings, tools, lamps, sewing machines and so much more. There is a collection of around 1000 artifacts. He is in love with his whole collection but his favorite artifacts are a music box which was almost impossible for

him to get but after a lot of negotiations he finally got it and also a cash register of over 100 years old that took him 8 years to get in his possession.

He still has a dream he wants to see come true this is to have a "Museum on Wheels". A bus with all kinds of artifacts which he can drive all around the island and take it to all schools and closer to the tourists.

The museum is located at Rooi Master 5E, near Savaneta. For more information contact him on 5632121 or on facebook at Museo di Antiguedad "Nos Bieunan". Reservations are required. ☐

SAN NICOLAAS — Meet Heintje Ras an Aruban fireman with a passion for the Aruban Culture. His love for everything that has to do with our heritage is visible in his day to day life at his own museum. Museo di Antiguedad "Nos Bieunan". Museum of Antiqueness "our elderly".

Since young Heintje has been taught to fix sewing machines. So whenever someone needed to fix a machine they would call him. While fixing a broken sewing machine at a home some years back he saw that the owners of the house had a very old sewing machine thrown in the backyard and he asked if he can have it. He took it home, fixed it and from there he got the idea to start collecting old artifacts that people wanted to throw away or had no use for it. For Heintje all these artifacts have a special meaning, a value, they all



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Paseo Herencia continuous with its program "The gift of Education" for 4 consecutive years

ORANJESTAD – Paseo Herencia is known for focusing on the culture of Aruba and at the same time supporting our local athletes and artists. Apart from this Paseo Herencia continues contributing to our community and for 4 years already they have been active with the project "The gift of education".

This project started 4 years ago with 10 kids and with the goal to help pay school fees for these kids and by contributing in their education. This way these kids will have the opportunity to succeed in achieving their goal to advance in education in spite of their financial situation.

Paseo Herencia believes solidly in a good education and will stay firm behind this. Once you have your education no one can

take this from you and your dreams can be reached. One of the requirements of this program is that while these kids keep successfully passing their class and a good report card they will continue receiving financial support from Paseo Herencia in order to continue studying in Aruba. Currently they still have 6 kids that started with them at the initial of this project 4 years ago. In 2017 they had their first graduate at the University of Aruba.

Wednesday afternoon Paseo Herencia invited these kids to TGI Friday's Aruba at Paseo Herencia for a special treat. Paseo Herencia handed over a big basket with school supplies to them. School baskets where supplied by several shops located in Paseo Herencia. Also all these kids received a new pair of

sneakers from The Athlete's Foot Aruba also located in Paseo Herencia. Paseo Herencia wishes all students and teachers a successful start of a new school year. □



Aruba participating for the first time at the world tournament of Beach Tennis

ORANJESTAD — It is the 7th consecutive year of the world tournament of Beach Tennis organized by the International Tennis Federation, the ITF, which is taking place in Moscow, Russia. For the first time Aruba is taking part of this tournament. The team of Aruba consists of Anne Hoogendam (46), Dominique (90), Sander Castro (118) and captain of the team Aksel Samardzic (14). The number mentioned behind their names is their ranking on the international Beach Tennis board.

The games already started on August 7 with the first round. Aruba, taking in consideration that it is their

first time, got a wild card and automatically qualified for the second round. In this round they will be facing the team of Estonia.

Here is a short history of the Beach Tennis Tournament. This started in 2012 with a total of 15 countries participating. The winners that year were Italy and second place Brazil. In 2013 a total of 20 countries were part of it and here Italy and Brazil exchange places. Which for Brazil was such a big achievement seeing that Italy is considered to be the best of the world in this sport. Since 2013 Aruba has been trying to take part in this tournament but for various reasons was not

able. In 2014 there was a huge interest in participating in this tournament since 24 countries participated and here Italy took the trophy back home and Brazil was in second place.

In 2015 more countries decided to be part of the tournament which led to a total of 28 countries. The surprise of this year was certainly the home team Russia. Italy remained the world champion but Russia managed to take the second place from Brazil. 2016 had the highest record of countries participating ever registered with 32 countries. Another surprise. Russia wasn't happy with the second place from

the year earlier and fought hard for the 1st place. Leaving Italy on the second place. In 2017, 24 countries participated and the scenery changed again. Italy became champion, Brazil in second place and Russia finished in third place.

For 2018, there are 25 countries participating in which Aruba and South Africa are there for the first time. This tournament is on the professional level but also they have the younger level participating once again this year. Last year Venezu-

ela surprised everyone and won the championship in the youth category.

We are certainly very proud of our Team of Aruba who has the courage to battle between those big countries in Russia. We are sure they are giving their utmost in order to position our island in high ranking score for this sport.

The organizers in Aruba, Beach Tennis Aruba, wants to wish Aksel, Sander, Anne and Dominique all the best of luck in this tournament. □



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SPORTS



Advice to Aces should be to show up and play

By TIM DAHLBERG
AP Sports Columnist

The WNBA's Las Vegas Aces thought they'd make a statement by refusing to play a game because they were tired from a long day of travel.

It didn't quite turn out like they planned.

The team ended up forfeiting the game, which could very well cost it a spot in the playoffs. And the conversation that players wanted to start about the rigors of travel ended up falling on mostly deaf ears.

Turns out fans don't want to hear about how tough it is to play basketball for a living.

They just want players to show up and play.

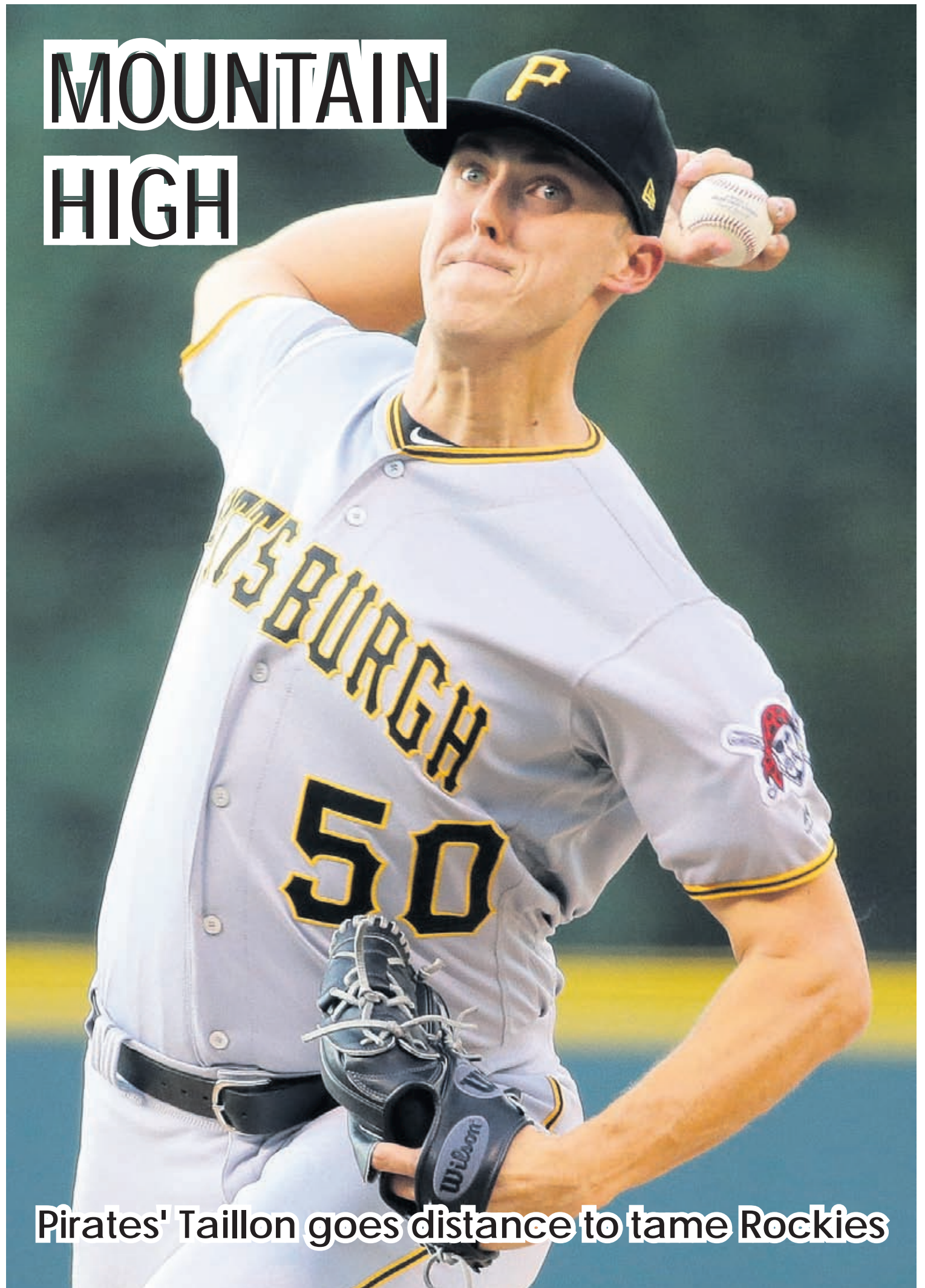
So does the WNBA, and with good reason. The league struggles enough to draw fans without inconveniencing and alienating those who have actually bought tickets for a game. It had little choice on Tuesday but to hand the Aces a pivotal loss by declaring last week's skipped game against the Washington Mystics a forfeit. That not only cost the Aces in the loss column but seriously damaged their chances of making the playoffs.

Score one for the fans who showed up in Washington with tickets for the game, only to be told to go home. And score one against a players' union that doesn't seem to understand the WNBA is not the NBA, no matter how much the players want it to be.

There are no \$40 million salaries in the WNBA, and certainly no private chefs.

Continued on Page 22

MOUNTAIN HIGH



Pirates' Taillon goes distance to tame Rockies

Pittsburgh Pirates starting pitcher Jameson Taillon throws to a Colorado Rockies during the first inning of a baseball game Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2018, in Denver.

Thomas steps out of the shadow of Spieth as PGA champion

By **DOUG FERGUSON**

AP Golf Writer

ST. LOUIS (AP) — A walk from the driving range to the 10th tee at Bellerive took longer than usual for Justin Thomas.

One marshal wanted an autograph. Another wanted a selfie.

He made it under the tunnel to find two more people stopping him for pictures. Thomas eventually made it up the stairs, onto the putting green and up a slight hill to the tee box with thousands of fans crammed on both sides and every seat in the grandstands occupied. That's where some degree of normalcy returned.

He was playing with Tiger Woods.

This was only Wednesday afternoon, and it's certain to be far more boisterous for the start of the 100th PGA Championship when Thomas tries to become only the second player in 60 years of stroke play to successfully defend his title. The other was Woods, who has done it twice.

"Being the deepest field in golf and a great golf course and a lot of players trying to knock off that major here at the end of the year that haven't gotten one yet this year ... any tournament is a tough one to win, but this one especially is," Thomas said.

Thomas is coming off his first World Golf Championship title last week at Firestone and is among the favorites at Bellerive, which was starting to dry out from downpours earlier in the week.

A year ago, Thomas was one of those guys who had yet to win a major, and he

wasn't getting much attention because it had been seven months since his last victory. Any mention of Thomas included that he was "Jordan Spieth's buddy."

Thomas hasn't heard that in a while.

He won the PGA Championship at Quail Hollow (Spieth was among those who hung around to share in the moment) added a FedEx Cup playoff event (Spieth was the runner-up), captured the FedEx Cup and the \$10 million bonus and swept all the big awards, just like Spieth had done two years earlier. Dating to last year at the PGA, Thomas has won five times. Spieth has gone more than a year without winning.

Thomas has come into his own.

"My last couple of wins, or maybe last year probably is when ... I started to get out of that shadow," Thomas said.

This is a deep friendship that transcends any rivalry, and Thomas was never overly bothered by the mention of being Spieth's close friend. He understood that Spieth, who turned pro a year earlier and effectively had a two-year start on him, has more majors, has won more tournaments, reached No. 1 first and stayed there longer.

"I've always been my own guy," Thomas said, "but I was perceived by the media as his buddy. Which is fine."

There remains another shadow that was even stronger at Bellerive, and Thomas fully expects that.

Playing with Woods — along with Brooks Koepka,



Justin Thomas watches his tee shot on the 15th hole during a practice round for the PGA Championship golf tournament at Bellerive Country Club, Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2018, in St. Louis. Associated Press

J.B. Holmes and what felt like half the state of Missouri — made it a true practice round. Thomas plays the opening two days with Woods and Rory McIlroy.

Woods might be bigger now than when he was winning, perhaps because fans had every right to wonder if they would ever see him again, or see him when he was capable of posting low scores. Coming off a fourth back surgery, Woods has made it through eight months without any health issues — though he did have an ice bath after a long week in the heat at Firestone — and has shown flashes.

The most recent was at the British Open, when he had the lead in the final round for two holes in the final round until fading to a tie for sixth. All that did was

ratchet up the hysteria that perhaps another major is in the cards. This is his first PGA Championship since 2015, which was the first one Thomas played.

"It will be pretty crazy out there," Thomas said. "There's going to be a lot of people, I know that. ... So yeah, it will be a cool week. It will be cool for him to be back, and he obviously has a lot of great success in this tournament, as he does most of the ones he's played in."

The players with Woods on Wednesday — and for the next two days — were telling. Koepka has won the last two U.S. Opens. Thomas is the PGA champion and No. 2 player in the world. McIlroy began his run of four majors in a four-year stretch about the time Woods began dealing with injuries. And there are

plenty more like them, from Dustin Johnson growing impatient about not winning a major in two years to Spieth getting another crack at the career Grand Slam, to Rickie Fowler trying to shed the label as among the best without a major.

"It's the last opportunity to win one," Justin Rose said. "A good year becomes a phenomenal year with a major championship. It's what I build my year around. So absolutely, you're very keenly aware that this is the last opportunity. ... If you find yourself in contention down the stretch, you'll be fully aware of what this means."

For Thomas, a place in the record book with Woods. For Spieth, a place among the most elite group in golf. For Woods, the defining moment of a comeback. □

PGA CHAMPIONSHIP '18: Facts about final major of the year

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Facts and figures for the PGA Championship:

Event: 100th PGA Championship.

Site: Bellerive Country Club.

Length: 7,316 yards.

Par: 35-35_70.

Field: 156 players (136 tour pros, 20 club pros).

Prize money: TBA (\$10.5 million in 2017).

Winner's share: TBA (\$1.89 million in 2017).

Defending champion: Justin Thomas.

Grand Slam: Jordan Spieth gets his second attempt at becoming the sixth player to capture the career Grand Slam.

Tiger Tales: Tiger Woods has gone 37 starts on the PGA Tour since his last victory, and 27 majors since his last Grand Slam title. He is playing the PGA Championship for the first time since 2015.

Ryder Cup: The PGA Championship is the final event for players to finish

among the top eight qualifiers for the U.S. Ryder Cup team. With points counting double and a big purse, the winner is virtually assured a spot on the team. Last shot at Glory's Last Shot: The PGA Championship will become the second major starting next year when it moves

to May. Bellerive champions: Gary Player (1965 U.S. Open), Nick Price (1992 PGA Championship), Camilo Villegas (2008 BMW Championship).

Key statistic: Tiger Woods is the only player to win the PGA Championship back-to-back in stroke play. Woods did it twice. □

Djokovic beats Polansky, Del Potro withdraws from Rogers Cup

TORONTO (AP) — Four-time champion Novak Djokovic advanced to the third round of the Rogers Cup on Wednesday, beating Canadian wild-card Peter Polansky 6-3, 6-4.

Djokovic, coming off his fourth Wimbledon title last month, had seven aces and never faced a break point in the 1-hour, 25-minute match that just beat the rain.

A former world No. 1, Djokovic is seeded ninth in the event he last won in 2016.

"I thought I served well in the moments when I really need it," the Serbian star said. "I thought I found pretty good accuracy and angles with the first serve, and also my second serve worked pretty well. Overall, my game was so-and-so. In the moments when I probably needed to step it up, I did."

Heavy morning rain delayed the match by about



Novak Djokovic, of Serbia, returns a shot to Peter Polansky, of Canada, during the Rogers Cup men's tennis tournament in Toronto, Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2018.

Associated Press

an hour. Top-seeded Rafael Nadal of Spain was scheduled to face Benoit Paire of France at night.

Earlier Wednesday, tournament officials announced that Juan Martin del Potro of Argentina had with-

drawn because of a left wrist injury.

"Sorry to my fans in Toronto, but I have to pull out of the tournament since my left wrist needs some days of rest," Del Potro said in a tweet.

Del Potro, who had a bye in the first round after reaching the Los Cabos final last week, was set to play Robin Haase of the Netherlands. Haase beat Mikhail Youzhny of Russia 7-5, 6-2.

Polansky, a 30-year-old

from nearby Thornhill, Ontario, reached a career-high No. 110 in June but entered the week at No. 121.

"I thought it went really well out there," said Polansky, who's never made it past the second round of a Rogers Cup. "6-3, 6-4, (it was) probably a little closer than the score line said. I'll take it as a good experience and look forward to the next event." Eighth-seeded John Isner, the American who won at Atlanta two weeks ago, beat France's Pierre-Hugues Herbert 7-6 (3), 6-2. Italy's Fabio Fognini, the No. 14 seed coming off a victory at Los Cabos, fell out with a 6-3, 7-5(14) loss to Canada's Denis Shapovalov.

Also, Karen Khachanov of Russia beat 12th-seeded Pablo Carreno Busta of Spain 6-4, 7-6 (3); Ilya Ivashka of Belarus topped American Ryan Harrison 7-6 (5), 6-4; and American Frances Tiafoe edged Canada's Milos Raonic 7-6 (4), 4-6, 6-1. □

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Colon gets historic win as Rangers beat Mariners 11-4

By The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Bartolo Colon became the top-winning pitcher born in Latin America, punctuating his 246th career victory with a nifty snag as the Texas Rangers roughed up Felix Hernandez and the Seattle Mariners 11-4 on Tuesday night.

The 45-year-old Colon, from the Dominican Republic, made his sixth start since earning his 245th win on June 30 that matched the mark held by Dennis Martinez from Nicaragua. Colon (6-10) gave up four runs in seven innings. The portly and popular right-hander struck out one and walked none.

Adrian Beltre, Jurickson Profar and Rougned Odor homered off Hernandez (8-10), who allowed a career-high 11 runs — seven earned — in six innings.

ANGELS 11, TIGERS 5

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Shohei Ohtani hit a three-run homer during a seven-run first inning, and the Angels celebrated Mike Trout's 27th birthday with a victory over the Tigers.

Trout missed his sixth consecutive game with a sore right wrist, but his teammates maintained a celebratory mood at the Big A with 13 hits in their second straight win over the Tigers. Ohtani's 411-foot homer was his third in August, and he added a single for his third multihit performance in five games. Andrew Heaney (7-7) lasted five innings for the win.

Jeimer Candelario hit a two-run homer and drove in three runs, but Detroit dropped to 0-5 on its six-game California road trip. Jacob Turner (0-1) got the loss.

YANKEES 4, WHITE SOX 3, 13 INNINGS

CHICAGO (AP) — Miguel Andujar hit a tiebreaking RBI single in the 13th inning, sending the Yankees in the victory.

Andujar also led off the seventh with his 15th homer. Sonny Gray (9-8) pitched three scoreless innings to get the win in his first appearance since losing his spot in the starting rotation.



Texas Rangers starting pitcher Bartolo Colon throws during the first inning of the team's baseball game against the Seattle Mariners, Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2018, in Arlington, Texas.

Associated Press

New York slugger Giancarlo Stanton hit a tiebreaking two-run homer in the 10th, but Jose Abreu hit a two-run shot in the bottom half for Chicago.

Adam Engel robbed the Yankees of a homer with an outstanding catch in center for the second straight night. Luis Avilan (2-1) got the loss.

RED SOX 10, BLUE JAYS 7, 10 INNINGS

TORONTO (AP) — Mitch Moreland hit a three-run

homer during Boston's five-run 10th inning, and the Red Sox earned their fifth straight win.

Moreland's one-out shot off Ken Giles (0-3) followed a triple by Mookie Betts and a walk by Andrew Benintendi. Jackie Bradley Jr. added a two-run homer later in the inning.

Boston closer Craig Kimbrel (3-1) gave up a solo homer to Justin Smoak with one out in the ninth inning, tying it at 5. It was Kimbrel's

second blown save in four outings.

TWINS 3, INDIANS 2

CLEVELAND (AP) — Minnesota's Fernando Rodney struck out Francisco Lindor with the tying run on second base in the ninth inning, helping the Twins to the win.

Lindor homered in the eighth but struck out looking on a 2-2 pitch as Rodney recorded his 325th career save — moving him into 17th place on the ca-

reer list.

Twins left-hander Adalberto Mejia (2-0) pitched five innings of one-hit ball before departing due to a strained left wrist.

Indians right-hander Carlos Carrasco (13-6) allowed three runs and 10 hits in 6 1/3 innings.

The start of the game was delayed by rain for 2 hours, 10 minutes.

DODGERS 4, ATHLETICS 2

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Rich Hill pitched into the sixth to beat his former club for the first time, and the Dodgers stopped the Athletics' six-game winning streak.

Hill (5-4) allowed two runs over 5 1/3 innings. He is 3-1 with a 3.12 ERA in eight road starts.

Kenley Jansen closed it out with a pair of strikeouts in a perfect ninth for his 32nd save.

Khris Davis hit a two-run homer in the sixth for Oakland. Sean Manaea (10-8) was charged with three runs in 2 2/3 innings.

CUBS 5, ROYALS 0

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Mike Montgomery pitched five-hit ball into the seventh inning and David Bote drove in a career-high three runs, leading the Cubs to the win.

Montgomery (4-4) picked up his first win since June 29. He is 3-0 with a 0.40 ERA in four appearances against the Royals.

Kansas City rookie Brad Keller (4-5) was removed after six innings, allowing four runs and seven hits.

The Royals have lost six straight and are 14-43 since May 30.

RAYS 4, ORIOLES 3

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Willy Adames hit a solo homer with two out in the ninth inning, lifting Tampa Bay to the victory.

Adames' fifth home run of the season came off Miguel Castro (2-6).

Sergio Romo (2-2) got the win after retiring two batters in the ninth, helping Tampa Bay break a three-game losing streak.

Tim Beckham and Trey Mancini homered for Baltimore, and Alex Cobb pitched seven strong innings. □



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Taillon, Pirates beat Bettis, Rockies 10-2

By The Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — Jameson Taillon beat Chad Bettis in a matchup of pitchers who battled testicular cancer last year, and the Pirates hit three homers.

Taillon (9-8) allowed 10 hits in his second complete game of the season. The 26-year-old right-hander struck out three and walked one, helping Pittsburgh stop a three-game slide.

Starling Marte hit a solo drive in the first and Jordy Mercer connected for a three-run shot against Bettis (5-2) with two out in the fourth. Josh Harrison capped Pittsburgh's five-run fifth with a two-run homer off Jake McGee.

Bettis allowed nine runs and eight hits over 4 2/3 innings in his first start after missing five weeks with a blister on his right middle finger.

NATIONALS 8, BRAVES 3, GAME 1

BRAVES 3, NATIONALS 1, GAME 2

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ender Inciarte snapped a ninth-inning tie with a two-run triple, helping Atlanta to a doubleheader split.

In the opener, Bryce Harper and Ryan Zimmerman hit consecutive homers to spark a four-run fourth inning that carried Washington to the victory.

Seeking to blunt the momentum of the surging

Nationals, Atlanta shook off a strong pitching performance by Max Scherzer before striking against the Washington bullpen in the second game.

Freddie Freeman and Nick Markakis singled off Kelvin Herrera (1-2) before Inciarte hit a liner down the first-base line.

Jesse Biddle (3-0) pitched 1 2/3 innings and A.J. Minter got three outs for his ninth save.

In the first game, Zimmerman and Trea Turner had three hits apiece and Harper added two hits and two RBIs. Jeffry Rodriguez (1-1) allowed one run in five innings in his first major victory.

Kolby Allard (1-1) got the loss in relief of Max Fried, who was struck in the lower back by a line drive in the second inning and removed with a left groin strain. Allard allowed four runs in two innings.

CARDINALS 3, MARLINS 2

MIAMI (AP) — Matt Carpenter hit his 30th homer for St. Louis, a tiebreaking drive in the eighth inning.

Carpenter connected for the fourth time in five games and increased his career high for home runs. He also extended his streak of reaching base safely to 26 games, the longest active string in the majors.

Paul DeJong hit a two-run homer in the seventh for



Pittsburgh Pirates starting pitcher Jameson Taillon throws out Colorado Rockies' Chad Bettis, left, at first base during the third inning of a baseball game Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2018, in Denver.

Associated Press

the Cardinals, who have won eight of 12. Miles Mikolas (12-3) pitched seven innings, allowing two runs and five hits.

Derek Dietrich had three hits for the Marlins, who have lost seven of eight. Elieser Hernandez (2-6) got the loss.

PHILLIES 5, DIAMONDBACKS 2

PHOENIX (AP) — Nick Pivetta threw six scoreless innings for Philadelphia, and Nick Williams homered.

Pivetta (7-9) scattered five hits, struck out six and walked one to get his first win in four starts.

The Phillies, who blew a 2-0 lead in the ninth inning and

lost 3-2 in 14 in a 4-hour, 38-minute game on Monday, led 5-0 after a four-run eighth.

Zack Greinke (12-7) allowed only Williams' solo homer on three hits in seven innings but lost his second straight.

Pat Neshek pitched a scoreless ninth for his second save.

PADRES 11, BREWERS 5

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Manuel Margot homered, tripled, singled and drove in five runs, powering San Diego to the victory.

Franmil Reyes added three RBIs for the Padres. Matt Strahm (3-3) got one out for the win.

Jesus Aguilar and Mike Moustakas staked Milwaukee to a 4-0 first-inning lead with a pair of two-run homers — Aguilar's team-best 27th and Moustakas' 22nd and second as a Brewer.

All-Star Josh Hader (4-1) was charged with the loss after allowing two runs in 1 1/3 innings.

ASTROS 2, GIANTS 1

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Tyler White hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning, helping Houston put together another late rally.

The win followed the Astros' 3-1 victory Monday night in which Marwin Gonzalez hit a three-run homer with two outs in the ninth. □

U.S. beats Puerto Rico 8-1 at women's softball worlds

ICHIHARA, Japan (AP) — Savannah Jaquish hit a three-run homer in the third inning to help the United States beat Puerto Rico 8-1 and clinch first place in Group A at the women's softball world championship. Ali Aguilar also con-

nected for a three-run shot in the fourth to make it 7-1 and Michelle Moultrie hit a walkoff RBI single to end the game after five innings on Wednesday.

Monica Abbott earned the win after she struck out 11 batters over five innings, al-

lowing only a solo homer by Rivera Claudio in the second inning.

The U.S. improved to 7-0 in the championship which also doubles as a qualifier for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Puerto Rico dropped to 6-1.

The winner of the tournament will be awarded an Olympic spot. If Japan wins, the second-place finisher will be granted the Olympic spot because Japan has an automatic berth as host. Softball and baseball were dropped

from the Olympic program after the 2008 Beijing Games but have been restored for 2020. In Group B, Japan (6-0) faces Australia (5-1) later Wednesday but an approaching typhoon may delay the start of the game. □

Timbers on 15-game unbeaten streak with rivalry looming

By ANNE M. PETERSON

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) —

What slow start? The Portland Timbers have recovered and then some.

A 15-match unbeaten streak has moved the Timbers into second place in the Western Conference behind FC Dallas. The streak started with a 3-2 victory at home over Minnesota on April 8.

The latest win was a 3-0 victory over the Philadelphia Union last weekend that gave the Timbers their longest MLS undefeated streak since they also went 15 games without a loss in 2013. Portland is the only team with two streaks that long. The longest unbeaten streak is 19 games, set in 2010 by Dallas.

Portland's streak is also the longest in the league this season.

"Everyone is buying into what we're preaching," goalkeeper Jeff Attinella said. "Everyone is fighting each game and we're taking each game just as seri-



In this July 28, 2018, file photo, Portland Timbers' Fanendo Adi, second from right, celebrates with teammates after scoring a goal in the second half goal of an MLS soccer game against the Houston Dynamo in Portland, Ore.

Associated Press

ously as the last one. We're just going to try and keep it rolling."

It has been a dramatic shift from the start of the season when the Timbers started with five games on the road — because of construction at Providence Park — and were unable to come home with a win.

And home has been key to Portland's success. The Timbers (10-3-7) have yet to

drop a game at home this season. In fact, the team has not lost at home in 16 regular-season matches dating back to last season. "We are doing well," said Diego Valeri, the league's reigning MVP who leads Portland with eight goals this season. "I am very happy about the run we're having."

Portland, which has 14 games left, is heading into

a Cascadia Cup rivalry match at home this Saturday against the Whitecaps, who sit in seventh place in the West. But first Vancouver faces Toronto FC in the first leg of the Canadian Championship on Wednesday night.

The Cascadia Cup is the three-way rivalry between the Timbers, Whitecaps and Seattle Sounders that was started by rivalry groups before the teams joined MLS. Portland and Seattle sit atop the table with three points apiece, while Vancouver has none.

The Whitecaps were coming off a 2-2 draw on the road to NYCFC, stretching their undefeated streak to three games.

"We have confidence in the team, so we've just got to keep pushing forward," Whitecaps forward Erik Hurtado said.

MATCH OF THE WEEK: Sporting Kansas City (10-6-6) moved into third place in the West with a 1-0 victory last weekend on the road

against Houston. The team is on the road again this weekend for its first meeting with expansion LAFC (10-6-6), which is in fourth and jostling with Sporting for playoff position. LAFC was coming off a 2-1 loss on the road to the New York Red Bulls on Sunday.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK: San Jose's Vako was named the MLS Player of the Week for his two goals last Saturday against FC Dallas. The Earthquakes pulled off the 3-1 upset on the road.

Vako scored in the 19th and 88th minutes for the Quakes. He has six goals on the season.

WATCHING ATLANTA: The Timbers were continuing their upward swing, but Atlanta remains the hottest team in the league.

By far.

The Union, the first team in MLS to hit the 50-goal mark this season, sit atop the Eastern Conference at 14-4-6 with 10 games left. They are also atop the race for the Supporters' Shield. □

ADVICE TO ACES

Continued from Page 17

The flagship team plays most of its games in a 2,500-seat arena, and many players compete in overseas leagues to boost their paychecks.

And everyone flies commercial.

The last fact seems to be the sticking point with the WNBA's players' union, which would love nothing better than to have all players fly charter jets to games. Barring that, the union at least wants restrictions on games played while crossing two time zones or more.

The Aces provided a perfect test case, along with a chance to dramatize the difficulties of travel. Their original flight canceled, the Aces spent 26 hours traveling from Las Vegas to Washington, arriving midafternoon in the nation's capital for a game that night.

A tough day of travel, yes. Some of it documented by players themselves, who weren't afraid to go on Twitter to complain about it.

"No shoot around. No night of sleep. No beds. No food.

Right now we will land in DC at 245pm that has us going straight to the gym bc of traffic and bags...and you want us to play?" All-Star guard Kayla McBride tweeted. "Oh ok."

The WNBA tried to accommodate the Aces, moving the start of the game back an hour to give them more time to prepare. It was breast cancer awareness day in Washington, and a decent-sized crowd of some 5,000-6,000 was expected for the game. But when the Aces finally got to their hotel, they decided they would be risking injury by playing tired.

"We had hopes of rescheduling," Aces union representative Carolyn Swords told The Associated Press the next day. "We are competitors and value every opportunity to play. Every game is critically important with the new playoff format, but we couldn't put our health and safety on the line."

The decision not to play didn't sit well with Mystics coach Mike Thibault, who told a story about when he was coaching in Con-



Connecticut Sun guard Jasmine Thomas (5) drives past Las Vegas Aces guard Kelsey Plum (10) in the first half of WNBA basketball game action Sunday, Aug. 5, 2018, in Uncasville, Conn.

Associated Press

necticut in 2003 and a massive blackout hit the East Coast while the team was in Cleveland. The team took buses to Connecticut and then to New York City, showing up 52 minutes before tipoff.

They won the game.

"If you're there and in the city and can play, you

should show up and play," Thibault said.

Indeed, they should. But no one seemed able to explain that to the Aces, or warn them of the consequences should they decide against playing.

Now, instead of being known as the team that took a stand and forced

the WNBA to make travel easier, they'll be known as the first team to miss the postseason because players didn't get enough sleep. That's a consideration when trying to grow a fan base in a new city. The Aces haven't exactly followed the Vegas Golden Knights in taking Las Vegas by storm, and casino operator MGM owner has been offering free tickets to credit card holders to boost attendance in the arena on the Las Vegas Strip.

In a perfect world, WNBA players would make more money and get charter jets. But the league has been around 22 years now and, despite improved television ratings this season, there is no indication it will ever grow big enough for the players to be lavished with the same riches and perks the men get.

Meanwhile, the fans in Washington missed out on a game. The fans in Las Vegas will likely miss out on the playoffs.

All because the Aces decided not to show up and play.

Former world hurdles champion Bett killed in car crash at 28

By MUTWIRI MUTUOTA and GERALD IMRAY

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Nicholas Bett, a Kenyan runner who won the 2015 world championship title in the 400-meter hurdles, was killed in an early-morning car crash Wednesday in the country's famed high-altitude training region, police and his coach said. He was 28.

Bett had only just returned home this week from the African championships in Nigeria.

Nandi county police commander Patrick Wambani said Bett was killed in the crash on the road between Eldoret and Kapsabet, two of Kenya's best-known distance-running training towns in the Rift Valley region. He was born and lived in the region.

Bett was driving alone, Wambani said.

Bett's SUV hit bumps in a road and rolled, landing on its roof in a ditch, his coach, Vincent Mumo, told The Associated Press. Mumo said the accident happened at about 6 a.m.

"I'm out of words," Mumo said. "We thank god for his life."

Mumo said Bett's twin brother, Aron Koech, who is also an athlete, was "beyond grief."

Bett was also the father of



In this Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2015, file photo, Kenya's Nicholas Bett celebrates after winning the men's 400m hurdles final at the World Athletics Championships at the Bird's Nest stadium in Beijing.

Associated Press

2-year-old twin boys.

His gold in the 400 hurdles at the 2015 world championships in Beijing was a breakthrough victory for Kenya, normally a powerhouse only in middle- and long-distance events.

The triumph from Lane 8 was a big surprise as he became the first Kenyan to win a major title in the event. It signaled that Kenya was ready to challenge in the shorter distances, too.

It was also a significant personal achievement for Bett, who was carrying a foot injury and ran through the pain. Since 2014, the injury

had become a permanent part of his career and he learned to deal with it.

His victory in Beijing was especially popular in Kenya, where Bett was known as a humble athlete from a simple, rural background, like many of Kenya's distance-running champions.

The difference was Bett wasn't a natural. Instead, he had to persevere to be successful in a punishing event and one that isn't popular in Kenya.

He may have been born in the Rift Valley, the heartland of Kenyan running, but he was initially a volleyball

player before turning to track and field. He won the high jump at the national junior trials in 2010 and also tried the 110-meter hurdles before finally settling on the 400 hurdles.

Even then, it didn't come easy. He wasn't the best hurdler and recalled missing "about five hurdles" in the world championship semifinals before sneaking through to the final as one of the fastest losers.

He won the final in a Kenyan national record of 47.79 seconds.

"I was more shocked to run a time I never thought

I would make in my life," he said in an interview for his IAAF profile in 2016. "From there, my life changed. I have been able to do things for my family like building (a) house, buying a tractor."

Julius Yego, who produced another major surprise at the same world championships to win the javelin gold for Kenya, wrote on Facebook on Wednesday: "Dark morning, horrifying news! Can't believe it's real but go rest with the angels Nicholas Bett!"

"I'm shocked beyond words!" Yego added. "My roommate in Beijing when we won gold together and it was just the other day we were in Nigeria."

Bett also won bronze medals at the African championships in 2014 in the 400 hurdles and 4x400-meter relay. "Bett earned the country great honors in his outstanding victories," Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta wrote on his official Twitter page. "My deepest sympathies and heartfelt condolences to his family, relatives and friends."

The IAAF said it was "deeply saddened and shocked" by Bett's death. Athletics Kenya said it sent condolences to Bett's family and would help organize the funeral. □

No special treatment for Usain Bolt: Central Coast Mariners

GOSFORD, Australia (AP) — Central Coast Mariners coach Mick Mulvey says Usain Bolt will be treated as any other player when he joins the Australian A-League club this month on an "indefinite" trial.

Mulvey will make the final decision over whether Bolt is offered a contract as the Jamaican sprinting great pursues his long-held dream of playing professional football.

Mulvey told the Australian Associated Press on Wednesday the eight-time Olympic champion would start from scratch at

the Mariners as he hasn't viewed video from Bolt's previous trials in Germany, South Africa or Norway.

The Mariners coach said it is not out of the ordinary for potential signings to be asked to train with the club for several weeks before being offered a deal.

"It just happens to be that this is Usain Bolt," he said. "I've spoken to him. His attitude towards this was deadly serious."

"If it was up to him he'd be coming in without any hoopla but that's impossible for a person of his stature. I'm really happy and

really looking forward to having him train with the club."

Mulvey said he will judge Bolt purely on his performance during his trial period.

"I've had three dozen guys coming in for trials. I haven't had time to go and watch (video of) every player that's come in for training," he said. "I'm sure when he arrives he'll give a good account for himself and we'll see what happens from there. If it works, he will be offered a contract."

Mariners chief executive Shaun Mielekamp said he



had contacted the clubs for which Bolt had trialed and received positive feedback on his ability.

"We've heard that every time he's been training with them he's made dramatic improvements while he was there," Mielekamp said. "We will be looking for dramatic improvements."

"It's hard to tell a lot of the

time through the lens of a camera, both good and bad, so getting him on the ground and getting him with the boots on will be the most telling part."

Mielekamp said it was possible Bolt could play for Central Coast in pre-season matches ahead of the start in October of Australia's A-League. □

Disney says its new streaming service won't rival Netflix

By MAE ANDERSON
AP Technology Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — Disney's upcoming streaming service won't try to compete directly with Netflix and Amazon, but will focus instead on quality — namely original programs from Disney's "Star Wars," Pixar and Marvel brands.

The details from Disney CEO Bob Iger came as Disney reported a growth in earnings for the latest quarter, though results missed expectations.

With Comcast out of the bidding war, Disney is planning to move forward with its \$71.3 billion purchase of Fox's entertainment assets, in part to boost a Disney-branded streaming service set to launch in late 2019. Disney's shareholders and U.S. regulators have approved the Fox bid. Disney is awaiting regulatory approval overseas.

In a statement, Iger said he was excited about "opportunities ahead for continued growth."

Disney is building the streaming service as more people switch from traditional cable TV bundles to streaming online though services like Amazon and Netflix.

Disney just launched a \$5-a-month ESPN Plus streaming service with sports. If the Fox deal closes, it will have a controlling stake in Hulu, which offers a broad ar-



In this Nov. 16, 2017, file photo, a visitor walks past a display of Disney characters inside an exhibition entitled "Mexico and Walt Disney: A Magical Encounter," at the he Cineteca Nacional, Mexico's film archive, in Mexico City.

Associated Press

ray of programming starting at \$8 a month. With the Disney-branded entertainment service, Disney will have more control over its movies and TV shows from creation to distribution. That ultimately gives Disney more data to gauge its audience.

Though a price for the upcoming entertainment service hasn't been set, Iger told analysts during a conference call that the price will reflect a lower volume of shows and movies. Netflix plans range from \$8 to \$14 a month.

In the works for the Disney

service are a live-action "Star Wars" series, new episodes of the animated "Star Wars" series "Clone Wars," a live-action version of "Lady and the Tramp" and new series related to the "High School Musical" and "Monsters Inc." movies.

Launching the streaming services is Disney's biggest priority next year, Iger said. "There will be a significant amount of support given across all of our assets to see to it that the product launches successfully."

Some of Disney's properties, such as the original "Star Wars" trilogy, have licens-

ing agreements already in place with other companies, so they won't be available, at least initially.

But Iger said that movies Disney plans to release in 2019, including "Captain Marvel," "Dumbo," "Toy Story 4" and "Frozen 2," won't be encumbered by licensing deals and can go straight to the service soon after their theatrical releases.

In the fiscal third quarter, Disney's net income rose 23 percent to \$2.92 billion, or \$1.95 per share, from \$2.37 billion, or \$1.51 per share, a year ago. Exclud-

ing one-time items like a benefit from lower federal tax rates, income was \$1.87 per share. The average estimate of four analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research was for adjusted earnings of \$1.97 per share. Revenue rose 7 percent to \$15.23 billion in the period, short of the \$15.49 billion expected by four analysts surveyed by Zacks.

Revenue from the movie and TV production business jumped 20 percent to \$2.88 billion, boosted by a strong box office for "Avengers: Infinity War" and "Incredibles 2." Disney's television networks also saw gains, including at ESPN, despite the higher NBA costs and lower advertising revenue.

The one business that saw a drop in revenue was also Disney's smallest segment, Consumer Products and Interactive Media. Gains in products related to the Avengers weren't enough to offset lower revenue from "Spider-Man" and "Cars."

Disney shares have risen slightly more than 8 percent since the beginning of the year, while the Standard & Poor's 500 index has risen almost 7 percent. In the final minutes of trading on Tuesday, shares hit \$116.56, an increase of almost 10 percent from a year ago. In after-hours trading, Disney's stock fell 49 cents to \$116.07. □



A staff demonstrates a new face recognition system used for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games during a press conference in Tokyo Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2018.

Associated Press

By MARI YAMAGUCHI
Associated Press
TOKYO (AP) — A facial recognition system will be used across an Olympics for the first time as Tokyo

organizers work to keep security tight and efficient at dozens of venues during the 2020 Games.

The NeoFace technology developed by NEC Corp.

Facial recognition system set to be used in Olympic security

will be customized to monitor every accredited person — including athletes, officials, staff and media — at more than 40 venues, games villages and media centers, Olympic and company officials said Tuesday.

Local organizers said Tokyo will be the first Olympic host to introduce the face recognition technology at all venues. The system is expected to effectively eliminate entry with forged IDs, reduce congestion at accredited waiting lines and reduce athletes' stress

under hot weather.

Tsuyoshi Iwashita, Tokyo 2020 executive director of security, said venues that are spread within and outside of the capital would be a big burden in achieving high levels of security. "By introducing the face recognition system, we hope to achieve high levels of safety, efficiency and smooth operation at security check points before entry," he said, adding that the system would contribute to less stressful environment for athletes.

Iwashita said a test last year

showed gate checks using the facial recognition was more than twice the pace of the conventional system using X-ray with visual siting by security guards.

The facial images of every accredited person for the Olympics and Paralympics will be collected after the approval process and stored in a database to be used to verify identities at accreditation check points. NEC says its biometric identification technology is used at airports and elsewhere in 70 countries, including Japan. □

New law may force small businesses to reveal data practices

NEW YORK (AP) — A Rhode Island software company that sells primarily to businesses is nonetheless making sure it complies with a strict California law about consumers' privacy.

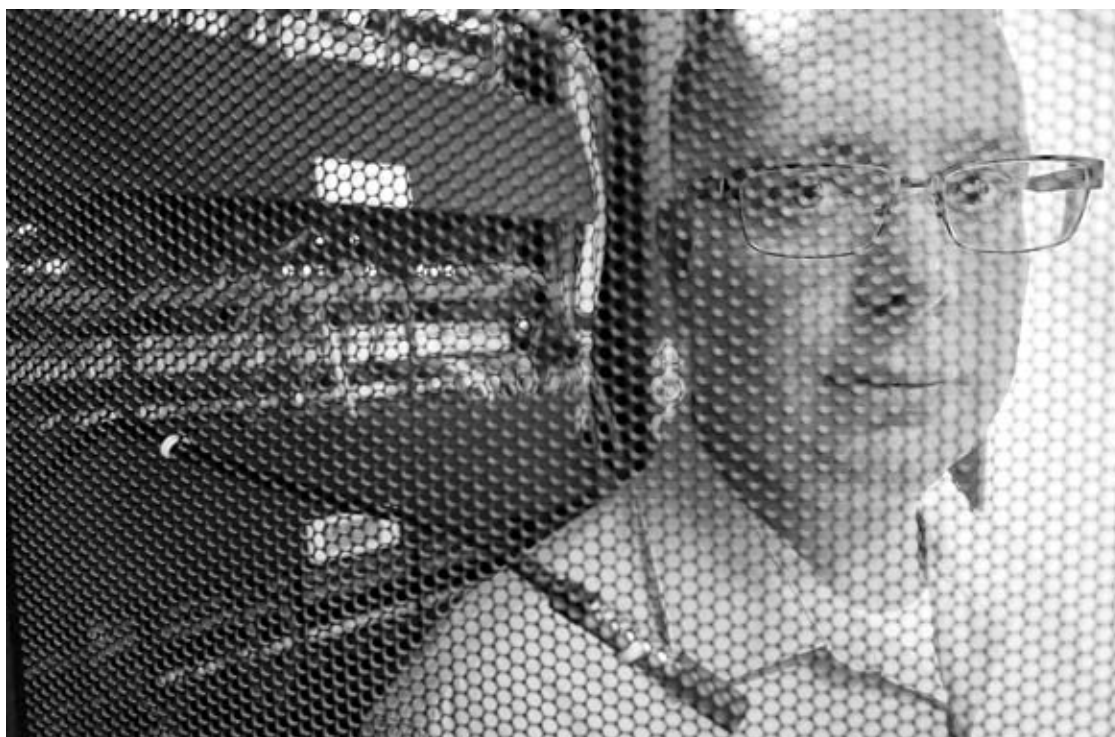
AVTECH Software is preparing for what some say is the wave of the future: laws requiring businesses to be upfront with customers about how they use personal information. California has already passed a law requiring businesses to disclose what they do with people's personal information and giving consumers more control over how their data is used — even the right to have it deleted from companies' computers.

Privacy rights have gotten more attention since news earlier this year that the data firm Cambridge Analytica improperly accessed Facebook user information. New regulations also took effect in Europe.

For AVTECH, which makes software to control building environmental issues, preparing now makes sense not only to lay the groundwork for future expansion, but to reassure customers increasingly uneasy about what happens to their personal information.

"People will look at who they're dealing with and who they're making purchases from," says Russell Benoit, marketing manager for the Warren, Rhode Island-based company.

Aware that California was likely to enact a data law, AVTECH began reviewing how it handles customer information last year. Al-



In this Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2018, photo Russell Benoit, of Dartmouth, Mass., marketing manager for AVTECH Software, stands behind door of a server cabinet company's data center in Warren, R.I.

Associated Press

though most of the company's customers are businesses, it expects it will increase its sales to consumers.

While it may yet face legal challenges, the California Consumer Privacy Act is set to take effect Jan. 1, 2020. It covers companies that conduct business in California and that fit one of three categories: Those with revenue above \$25 million; those that collect or receive the personal information of 50,000 or more California consumers, households or electronic devices; and those who get at least half their revenue from selling personal information.

Although many small businesses may be exempt, those subject to the law will have to ensure their systems and websites can

comply with consumer inquiries and requests. That may be an added cost of thousands for small companies that don't have in-house technology staffers and need software and consulting help.

Under California's law, consumers have the right to know what personal information companies collect from them, why it's collected and who the businesses share, transfer or sell it to. That information includes names, addresses, email addresses, browsing histories, purchasing histories, professional or employment information, educational records and information about travel from GPS apps and programs. Companies must give consumers at least two ways to find out their informa-

tion, including a toll-free phone number and an online form, and companies must also give consumers a copy of the information they've collected.

Consumers also have the right to have their information deleted from companies' computer systems, and to opt out of having the information sold or shared.

The law was modeled on the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation, which took effect May 25. The California Legislature passed its law

to prevent a more stringent proposed law from being placed on the November election ballot.

Frank Samson hopes the California law will help prevent what he sees as troubling marketing tactics by some in his industry, taking care of senior citizens. When people inquire about senior care companies online, it's sometimes on sites run by brokers rather than care providers themselves.

"It may be in the fine print, or it may not be: We're going to be taking your info and sending it out to a bunch of people," says Samson, founder of Petaluma, California-based Senior Care Authority.

That steers many would-be clients to just a handful of companies, he says, and can mean seniors and families get bombarded with calls while dealing with stressful situations.

But many unknowns remain about the California law. The state attorney general's office must write regulations to accompany several provisions. There are inconsistencies between different sections of the law, and the Legislature would need to correct them, says Mark Brennan, an attorney with Hogan Lovells in Washington, D.C., who specializes in technology and consumer protection laws. □

Ford celebrates production of 10 million Mustang sports cars

By **MIKE HOUSEHOLDER**
Associated Press

FLAT ROCK, Mich. (AP) — Ford Motor Co. marked the production of the 10 millionth Mustang with celebrations at the automaker's headquarters and at the Flat Rock Assembly Plant where the iconic sports car is made.

A parade of Mustangs from 1964 to the present day rolled into the HQ's parking lot in Dearborn, Michigan, Wednesday morning before making the 30-minute drive — complete with police escort — to the Flat Rock complex. There, the cars were organized into a configuration that spelled

out, "10,000,000." The commas were represented by the first Mustang produced and the 10 millionth, a 2019 Wimbledon White GT V8 six-speed manual convertible. Mustang is the best-selling sports car of the last 50 years in the U.S. and the world's top-selling sports car for three years in a row. □

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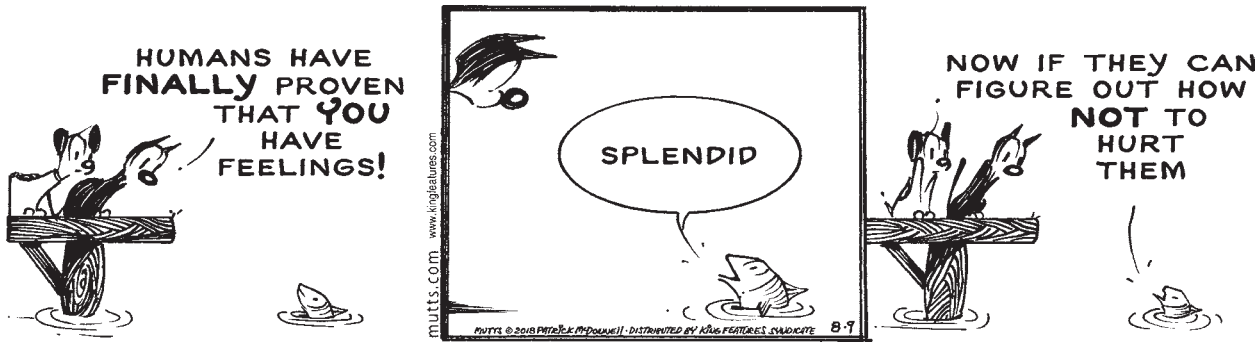
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Bubali 143, in front of SuperFood Plaza Mall

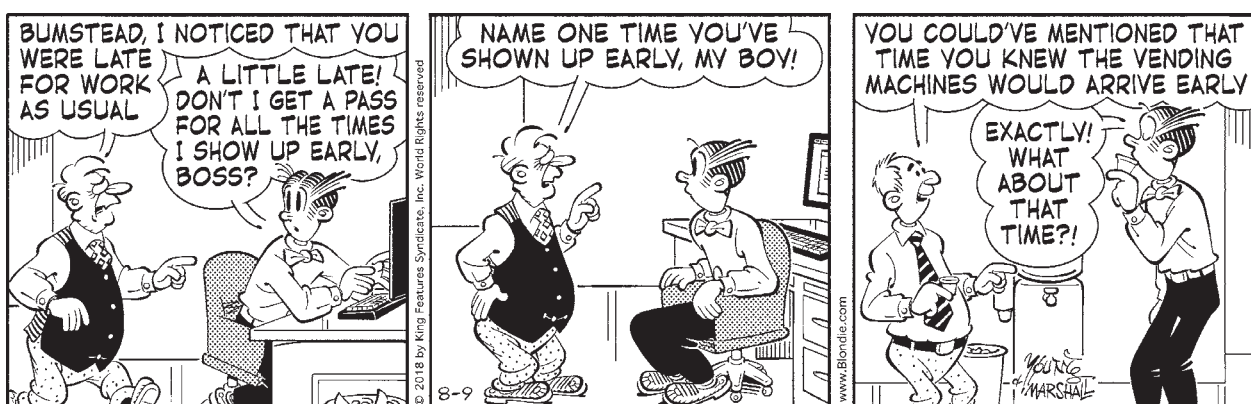
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



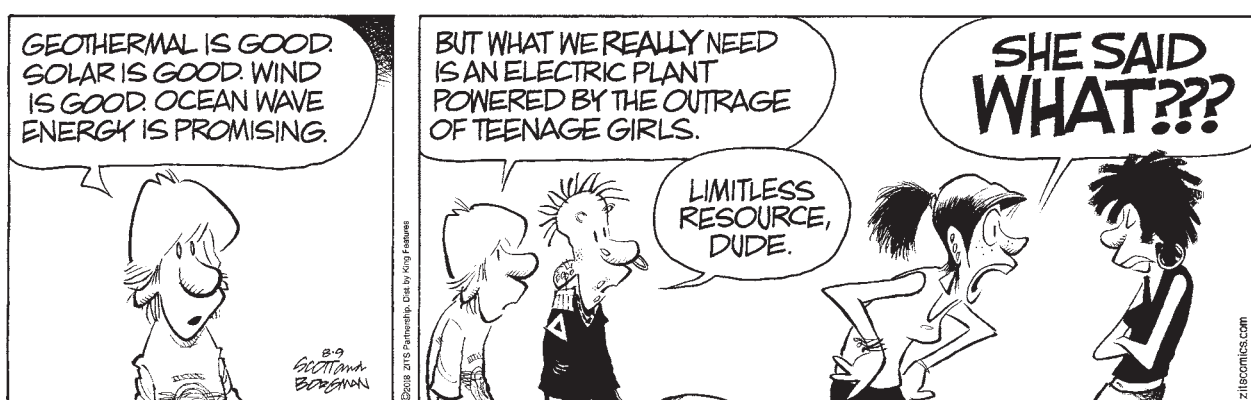
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

3								4
			2		4			
6		5		8		2		3
	5			2			9	
	1			6			7	
7		3		4		8		6
			6		7			
5								2

Difficulty Level ★★★

8/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

3	6	4	7	8	9	2	5	1
5	2	7	4	1	6	9	3	8
9	1	8	2	5	3	6	7	4
1	5	6	8	3	2	4	9	7
7	3	2	9	4	1	5	8	6
8	4	9	6	7	5	1	2	3
4	7	5	1	2	8	3	6	9
2	9	1	3	6	7	8	4	5
6	8	3	5	9	4	7	1	2

ACROSS

- Late comedian
- Bernie
- Argyles
- out; protrudes
- Needs some medicine
- Make amends
- Bogeyman
- Word of mild disgust
- Overly prim
- Murdered
- Popular pasta
- Watches
- Raise, as kids
- Geography book diagram
- Tooth hole
- Abundance; large amount
- Microwaves
- Male bee
- "Old King Cole" a merry old soul...
- Björn of tennis
- Banquet
- Helsinki native
- Big
- 18-wheeler
- Pennies
- Pig out
- Sufficient
- Fast-food item
- Shake-; radical reorganizations
- "with the Wind"
- Bangkok resident
- Significant
- On a; winning repeatedly
- Facial hair
- Librarian's advice
- Smallest continent: abbr.
- Massive
- Short note
- and cons
- Go into
- Last calendar pg.

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13			14		15					16			
17					18					19			
	20			21						22			
			23					24	25				
26	27	28				29	30			31	32	33	
34					35					36			
37					38					39			
40				41					42				
43				44					45				
			46					47					
48	49	50				51	52	53			54	55	
56						57				58		59	
60						61				62			
63						64				65			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/9/18

DOWN

- Irate
- Broadcasts
- Sound of thunder
- Walk about pompously
- Furry swimmer
- Layer of paint
- Make booties
- Gritty residue
- Nativity scene figurine
- Unightly
- Juniper or poplar
- Stitches
- Gazing
- away; escapes
- Polished off
- Deadly viper
- Steer clear of
- Threshold; brink
- Babble
- Bereavement
- to; because of
- "Home on the"

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

B	I	D	A	L	A	M	O	W	R	A	P
K	E	N	O	B	I	S	O	N	H	E	R
O	N	C	E	S	C	A	P	E	G	O	A
I	D	O	R	E	I	N	S	H	O	R	S
M	E	A	N	T	Z	A	P				
I	M	P	A	C	T	F	I	N	I	S	H
F	A	L	S	E	S	A	U	N	A	C	A
F	R	E	T	C	L	I	N	G	B	A	S
Y	E	T	G	U	A	R	D	S	A	N	T
S	E	C	R	E	T	G	A	N	D	E	R
H	A	S	F	O	N	D	A				
S	T	O	A	T	S	W	O	R	D	L	O
P	E	R	M	E	A	T	I	N	G	I	O
U	T	E	P	C	A	S	T	E	R	U	N
N	E	S	S	T	R	E	S	S	E	S	

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8/9/18

- Steep-walled canyon
- Mouse catcher
- Period of time
- Additionally
- Cruel
- Portion
- Have to have
- Easy to handle
- M.D., familiarly

Classifieds

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Experts question benefits of fluoride-free toothpaste

By JEFF DONN

AP National Writer

Dental health experts worry that more people are using toothpaste that skips the most important ingredient — fluoride — and leaves them at a greater risk of cavities.

Most toothpastes already contain fluoride. While health authorities recognize fluoride as a cavity blocker, the internet is dotted with claims, often from "natural" toothpaste marketers and alternative medicine advocates, that fluoride-free toothpaste also prevents cavities.

Dental authorities disagree. "It's really important to debunk this idea that brushing your teeth stops decay. You need to have the fluoride," said Damien Walmsley, a scientific adviser to the British Dental Association and dentistry professor at the University of Birmingham.

That view was underscored this week by an article in the dental journal *Gerodontology* that reviewed the scientific literature on cavities. Its primary conclusion is that, without fluoride, oral hygiene efforts have "no impact" on cavity rates. The idea that just brushing teeth doesn't stop cavities has largely been accepted among individual researchers for decades, but not always by the public. Dentists generally recommend fluoride for cavity fighting, but even some of them continue to believe that the mechanics of wiping your teeth clean of plaque also reduces cavities. The review findings, published Monday, gave pause to at least one dentist.

"It violates certain principles we've been taught and that we teach and that we believe," said Richard Nie-



In this photo taken Friday, Aug. 3, 2018, Philippe Hujoel, a dentist and University of Washington professor, holds a toothbrush and toothpaste as he poses for a photo in an office at the school in Seattle.

derman, a dentist and professor at New York University who saw an advance copy of the study and found the findings credible. "What it says to me is that the toothbrush is just a delivery system."

Few studies of the question have been carried out in recent years because the value of fluoride has been widely accepted for decades. In the review, University of Washington researchers looked for high-quality studies since 1950 and found just three. They were carried out in the U.S. and Great Britain and published from 1977 to 1981. They involved a total of 743 children aged 10 to 13 years who flossed and brushed for up to three years.

When the studies were evaluated statistically as a whole, there was no significant cavity reduction from simply brushing or flossing without fluoride.

Dentist J. Leslie Winston,

oral care director for Crest-toothpaste maker Procter & Gamble, said the review "serves as an important reminder."

"Despite a large body of scientific evidence, there are growing numbers of consumers who believe that all toothpastes are the same and that as long as you clean your teeth effectively with a toothbrush or other device which cleans in-between the teeth, you can prevent decay," he said in a statement.

The market share for fluoride-free toothpaste is closely held company data. Industry sources estimate it at no more than 5 percent of all toothpaste sold, but with projected growth of over 5 percent annually. On Monday, Tom's of Maine antiplaque and whitening toothpaste, which is fluoride-free, was listed as the second-best selling toothpaste on Amazon's online buying platform.

Paul Jessen, a brand manager at Tom's of Maine, said "the products that we offer do not promise that benefit" to fight cavities. He said his company's customers generally understand this.

Yet customer comment on Amazon's website sometimes indicates otherwise, with many reviews insisting that the company's fluoride-free toothpaste does fight cavities. "If you brush regularly with or without fluoride, you reduce the risk of cavities," asserts one customer.

Oral care companies themselves also stray into such claims. The website of Revitin non-fluoride toothpaste says it "strengthens your teeth against tooth decay."

Gerald Curatola, the dentist who founded Revitin and now serves as chief science officer, called the review "misleading." He said that the latest science

suggests that a healthy mix of oral bacteria is key to dental health. "I don't think fluoride makes a difference at all," he said.

However, referring to his company's decay-fighting claim, he added: "After this call, I'm probably going to remove that from the website, because I don't think that should be on there, because I didn't know that was on there."

Jeff Davis, the CEO of Sheffield Pharmaceuticals that sells toothpaste with and without fluoride, said it's "pretty established" that fluoride is what helps reduce cavities. But he said some people worry about the harmful effect of too much fluoride and so choose fluoride-free toothpaste.

Even without fluoride, dentists say there's some value in brushing. Philippe Hujoel, the dentist and University of Washington professor who led the dental review, said oral hygiene without fluoride might produce real cavity-fighting effects too small to detect in a study, or adults might conceivably benefit where the children in the studies did not. And toothbrushing did reduce swollen gums in Hujoel's review. Brushing the teeth may also dislodge stuck food and help patients recover from oral surgery.

Dentist Matthew Messina, a spokesman for the American Dental Association, said mechanical brushing can also help avoid decay that sometimes forms, especially in older people, at the normally hidden roots of teeth, which was outside the scope of this review.

"The study is important," he added, "because the study is supporting what we've been contending for a long time." The ADA recommends using fluoride toothpastes.

The review also cited a 2009 analysis of studies involving 60,000 people that found fluoride rinse prevents cavities about as well as fluoride toothpaste.

In 2016, The Associated Press reported on the poor scientific evidence for the benefits of flossing. □

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Miss America head Gretchen Carlson seeks 'healing process'

By WAYNE PARRY

Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) —

Gretchen Carlson, the former Fox News host now in charge of the Miss America Organization, says the organization needs to heal a rift that has seen 20 state groups call for her and other top leaders to resign.

In an interview with The Associated Press that Carlson said would be her last on the subject, she said Miss America officials at all levels need to be "on the same page" and she hoped that would happen before the next Miss America is crowned in Atlantic City on Sept. 9.

"It would be important that we all try to come together and have a healing process," she said.

Yet Carlson, chairwoman of the Miss America Organization, dismissed critics as "a noisy minority" unhappy over the elimination of the swimsuit competition from this year's nationally televised broadcast and resistant to change in general. Carlson, who was Miss America in 1989, also said on Tuesday the decision to eliminate the swimsuit competition has made the pageant more relevant and has been praised by many supporters who considered the pageant outdated and demeaning to women.

Twenty-two state-level pageant officials last month signed a letter expressing no confidence in Carlson, president and CEO Regina Hopper and the current board, claiming "Miss America 2.0 is simply a new title for the same old tactics of obfuscation and fear-based governance." Two states later disassociated themselves from the letter, Carlson said.

Several opponents told the AP actions are being considered for the week of the Miss America competition, including litigation, news conferences and public demonstrations outside Boardwalk Hall, where the pageant will take place. However, at least 30 former Miss Americas have voiced confidence in the current leadership.



In this Sept. 18, 2015, file photo, newly-crowned Miss America 2016, Betty Cantrell poses for a portrait in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

that sponsors and networks will not come if we had swimsuit," added Jennifer Vaden Barth, a former board member and former Miss North Carolina.

Vaden Barth said when she and others questioned that, "they said, 'No, no, no, we didn't mean ABC, we were talking about production companies.'" An ABC spokeswoman told the AP the network never threatened to cancel the broadcast, and Hopper confirmed that in January, months before the swimsuit decision was made, ABC agreed to broadcast the pageant.

Miss America 2016 Betty Cantrell said the decision to eliminate swimsuit was presented as a fait accompli. □

Hopper said critics are unhappy that Miss America is eliminating the swimsuit competition, a staple of the pageant since it debuted in 1921. She said the reinvention of Miss America is a turnaround that would typically take two to four years in the corporate world but had to be done in eight months, forcing people to come to terms with it much quicker than usual.

Carlson and Hopper were among a wave of female leadership swept into office after emails from former pageant leaders denigrating the appearance, intellect and sex lives of ex-Miss Americas surfaced last December. But the decision to drop the swimsuit competition and the way opponents say it was presented to them led many to rethink their initial support for the new regime.

Many opponents say Carlson and others presented the swimsuit elimination as an ultimatum, coupled with a threat that the pageant would lose its national television broadcast if swimsuits were retained.

"We were told we had a choice — it was either swimsuit or TV," said Leah Summers, executive director of the Miss West Virginia Organization.

"I heard from Regina Hopper and Gretchen Carlson

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History-making 'Crazy Rich Asians' readies for release

By LINDSEY BAHR

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It's been 25 years since a major Hollywood studio released an English-language film with a primarily Asian cast. The last was Wayne Wang's adaptation of the generational tear-jerker "The Joy Luck Club," which was released in 1993.

But that dry spell is about to end with the release of the opulent romantic comedy "Crazy Rich Asians" on Wednesday Aug. 15. The film is based on Kevin Kwan's best-selling book about a Chinese-American woman who gets a culture shock when she meets her boyfriend's wealthy family in Singapore.

Veteran producer Nina Jacobson said that when she and her Color Force partner Brad Simpson ("The Hunger Games") read Kwan's manuscript, they knew it had to be a movie.

"We just tore through it," Jacobson said. "It was so specific that it became really universal: Anybody who has ever faced in-laws who felt that they were not worthy of their beloved."



The cast and crew of "Crazy Rich Asians" arrive at the film's premiere at the TCL Chinese Theatre on Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2018, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

They knew that the film would likely never survive the studio development process, however, and decided to have a vision, a script and a budget to sell as a package before going to the marketplace. Ivanhoe Pictures' John Penotti signed on to help and War-

ner Bros. would ultimately join to partner with them to release the film.

"Hollywood has done a bit of a disservice by not taking us into these worlds," Simpson said. "There is a hunger for not just token representation but to really dive into the world of different ethnicities and races." Meanwhile, Jon M. Chu, who would eventually sign on to direct "Crazy Rich Asians," had already been hearing about this new book from family members. His last name is the same as that of the main character, Rachel Chu, and they're both from Cupertino. There's even a reference to his family in Kwan's book, but ultimately the book spoke to the uniqueness of the Asian-American experience. "I think a lot of Asian-Americans go through the same journey ... I relate to having that dual cultural identity of being full-on all-American, all-California boy, but having a Chinese side to me," Chu said. "I remember going to Asia for the first time and there's a very specific emotion that you feel that's like, 'Oh, this feels like home but it's not my home and these people don't see me as being part of this.' Then when you're home you start to notice people may not see you as part of that either."

Having known Jacobson and Simpson for years, he knew they would "protect" the film and do it right. He signed on to transport audiences to an unbelievable world of wealth, privilege and tradition — part Edith Wharton, part "Gossip Girl." Chu brought on Malaysian-born screenwriter Adele Lim to give the script an Asian specificity and set off to assemble his dream cast. The worldwide search had casting directors looking in Canada, New York, Los Angeles, Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, London, Australia, Singapore and Malaysia. All had to be English-speaking — and have the right accents, too. "Fresh Off the Boat" star Constance Wu was chosen to play the lead, Rachel. They found an unknown to play her boyfriend, Nick, in Henry Golding, a handsome and charismatic TV host who had the perfect English accent to play the London-schooled heir, and cast Michelle Yeoh to be his disapproving mother, Eleanor. But even this hand-picked ensemble caused some consternation on the internet over the specific ethnicities and whether they matched exactly with what the book laid out. Chu said that there's even a discussion is important. But just the mere fact of

a film having a female Asian-American lead and a majority pan-Asian cast is significant. A USC Study found that 37 of the top 100 films from 2017 featured no Asian-American speaking characters, despite making up 5.6 percent of the U.S. population.

"Since I've graduated from drama school I never get to play the lead," Wu said. "The fact that Asian-Americans never get to center the narrative means that their parts are always going to be not as whole and fleshed-out."

That made it an emotional experience for many on the set.

"Everyone had gone through the process of what it's like to be an Asian-American in Hollywood or around the world," Chu said. "You could see the difference between someone like Michelle Yeoh who literally said, 'I'm the majority where I'm from so I don't understand the plight that you guys are going through.' It was very shocking for her to see how it affected these young actors and how people would just cry on the set and how happy they were that they got to do this." Jacobson described it as a "joyful sense of purpose that we all shared."

Wu, who is an outspoken advocate for Asian representation on social media, said the film is significant for differentiating the Asian experience and the Asian-American experience.

"You show that our culture is more than just skin-deep," Wu said. "You show our similarities and how we're different."

Warner Bros. has been enthusiastically promoting the movie for months, with early screenings for press and influencers alike, along with a full-force ad campaign.

"I hope people go see it because I think we have a great movie and if they go see it, it changes things," Chu said. "People have to show up. I guarantee four new stories of Asian-Americans will be greenlit in two weeks if it comes out and does well. □"

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 THE MEG JASON STATHAM RUBY ROSE WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13] MON/THU 4:25 6:55 9:25 FRI 4:25 6:55 9:25 11:55 SAT 1:55 4:25 6:55 9:25 11:55 SUN & HOL 1:55 4:25 6:55 9:25	 SLENDER MAN JOEY KING JAVIER BOTET WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13] MON/THU 5:10 7:20 9:30 FRI 5:10 7:20 9:30 11:40 SAT 3:00 5:10 7:20 9:30 11:40 SUN & HOL 3:00 5:10 7:20 9:30	 Christopher Robin EWAN MCGREGOR HAYLEY ATWELL WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG] MON/THU 4:20 6:35 8:50 FRI 4:20 6:35 8:50 11:05 SAT 2:05 4:20 6:35 8:50 11:05 SUN & HOL 2:05 4:20 6:35 8:50
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 MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE FALLOUT TOM CRUISE HENRY CAVILL WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13] MON/FRI 6:00 9:05 SAT/SUN 2:55 6:00 9:05	 HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA ADAM SANDLER SELENA GOMEZ WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG] MON/FRI 4:55 7:05 SAT & SUN 2:45 4:55 7:05	 THE EQUALIZER DENZEL WASHINGTON PEDRO PASCAL WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [R] MON/SUN 9:15

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Photo exhibit documents revival of Polish Jewish life

By VANESSA GERA

Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland (AP) —

American photographer Chuck Fishman was just 21 when he began traveling behind the Iron Curtain in 1975 to document a Jewish community on the verge of dying out after centuries of existence in Poland. He couldn't have foreseen a Jewish revival that came after the fall of communism in 1989.

A new photo exhibition opened this week in Warsaw that brings together Fishman's early documentation of a melancholy and declining Jewish world with the revival of traditions by the third and fourth generation after the Holocaust, a transformation that left him astounded.

Titled "Re-Generation: Jewish Life in Poland," the exhibition showing at the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw will run until Oct. 28 and then go to the Galicia Jewish Museum in Krakow for several more months.



Visitors look at photographs on display documenting Jewish life in Poland from the 1970s, in Warsaw, Poland, Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2018.

Associated Press

Fishman, now 65, told The Associated Press on Wednesday that his motivation for documenting Poland's Jews in the 1970s and 1980s was to document history before the centuries-old Jewish community died out completely.

On the eve of the Holo-

caust, Polish Jews numbered around 3.3 million, the largest community in Europe. Most were killed by Nazi Germany, while post-war violence and an anti-Semitic campaign by the Polish communist regime in 1968 forced most of the survivors into exile.

"It was supposed to be the last of 1,000 years of Polish Jewish life. That's what everyone was saying — everyone," Fishman said. "And if it was not for the fall of communism, it would have been the end."

Fishman did five reporting trips to Poland from

1975-1983, often to cover other historical events, like the first visit of Polish Pope John Paul II to his homeland in 1979 and the rise in the 1980s of Lech Walesa's anti-communist Solidarity movement. On those trips he also turned his camera on Yiddish-speaking Holocaust survivors who gathered in derelict buildings to pray together. At the time, Jewish life took place in private because of fears of discrimination.

In some cases he managed to capture those praying during Sabbath services. While some opposed him taking pictures on the Sabbath, a violation of Jewish law, Fishman recalled that others were willing to overlook it. "I was this nice Jewish boy from America," Fishman said, recalling how the sympathetic worshippers with non-verbal language seemed to be saying: "leave him alone. What's the difference? When we're gone there's nothing here." □

Oscars add popular film category, sets earlier 2020 date

By LINDSEY BAHR

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) —

The Oscars are adding a new category to honor popular films and promising a brisk three-hour ceremony and a much earlier air date in 2020.

John Bailey, the newly re-elected president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, and film Academy CEO Dawn Hudson said in an email to members Wednesday morning that the Board of Governors met Tuesday night to approve the changes.

Ratings for the 90th Academy Awards fell to an all-time low of 26.5 million viewers, down 19 percent from the previous year and the first time the glitzy awards ceremony had fewer than 30 million viewers since 2008. Hosted by Jimmy Kimmel, the ceremony also clocked it at nearly four hours, making it the longest show in over a decade.



In this Feb. 21, 2015 file photo, an Oscar statue appears outside the Dolby Theatre for the 87th Academy Awards in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

"We have heard from many of you about improvements needed to keep the Oscars and our Academy relevant in a changing world," Hudson and Bailey wrote.

In an effort to keep future ceremonies to three hours, the awards will be presented live and during commercial breaks. Specific categories will be deter-

mined at a later date, but the winning moments will be edited and aired in a later broadcast.

The film academy is also shifting the date for the

92nd Academy Awards to earlier in the year. The 2019 ceremony will still air on Feb. 24, while the 2020 show will move to Feb. 9.

The addition of a popular film category caused the most chatter Wednesday morning, as a clear effort to attract a larger audience by honoring bigger and more seen films. Bailey and Hudson said eligibility requirements will be determined at a later date. It wasn't specified whether it would be added for the 91st Academy Awards this February.

Oscar viewership is often tied to the box-office muscle of the big nominees. The 2018 best picture winner, "The Shape of Water," had grossed \$57.4 million in the United States by the time the awards aired and \$63.9 million total. The biggest Academy Awards audience on record came in 1998, when the blockbuster "Titanic" was named best picture. □

A coral reef cemetery is home to life in the afterlife

By KELLI KENNEDY

Associated Press

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP) —

A year after Will and Daniel Payne lost their mom, and nearly two decades since their father's death, it was time to follow their wishes for the afterlife.

As they board a boat with three generations of family, the brothers slip into flippers and de-fog their masks. Will, who became a certified scuba diver just days earlier, checks his oxygen tank and jumps into the azure waters to secure a concrete marker mixed with their ashes at a memorial reef about three miles out to sea.

This unusual resting place is exactly what the Paynes say their parents wanted. Buel Payne, a former Coast Guard member, and Linda Payne, who grew up on the water and loved boating, will spend their afterlife in a memorial modeled after the lost city of Atlantis, among impressive lion statues and ornate gates and pillars that encrusted with sea life.

It took nearly four years for multiple government agencies to sign off on this underwater mausoleum, which is designed to encourage a healthy ecosystem. Roughly a decade later, the Neptune Memorial Reef is home to the cremated remains of 1,500 people, and any snorkeler or scuba diver can visit.

The Paynes are the first to



In this July 19, 2018 photo, Will Payne and three generations of his family throw flowers into sea after memorial plaque for Payne's parents, Buel and Linda Payne, was installed at Neptune Memorial Reef near Miami Beach, Fla.

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be memorialized in the reef's expansion, which opened this summer and will make room for an additional 4,000 memorials over 16 acres, about 40 feet deep. Placements start around \$1,500 and can go up to \$8,000, with the priciest placements for specialized shapes like sea turtles and stingrays or for prominent spots throughout the city like the lions.

With reefs struggling worldwide against coral bleaching and other threats, the memorial's builders are providing coral a head start. The concrete structures offer a high pH level,

enabling sea creatures to flourish.

"We're seeing animals here that we haven't seen before. Ones that have been missing for a long time," says Jim Hutslar, the reef's operations director and one of the founders. "We actually found a long spine sea urchin that was considered extinct in the Caribbean Sea."

Sara Thanner, an environmental supervisor for the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, says an April survey showed the reef supports more than 65 different fish, shrimp and lobster and 75 other species including sponges, soft corals, and hard corals.

For people making end-of-life plans, the reef means being part of something living. Hutslar is hoping that decades from now, the memorial will have grown into a massive coral reef where individual markers will no longer be distinguishable, and "family members will just know their loved ones are part of it."

"We're creating life after life," he said.

While Hutslar, Will and another diver descended to the ocean floor, Daniel and his wife and three children snorkeled on the surface, gazing down through the strong clear currents. They

spotted a parrot fish, barracuda and a monster snook. Abundant schools of small, colorful fish darted in and out of the sculptures. They had picked out a small bronze headstone reading "Together at Last" to mark the ashes, adding their thumbprints on a decorative concrete sea shell. The divers picked a spot amid the underwater city's striking columns and statues.

"It's just amazing. It's so peaceful," Will, 48, of Sachse, Texas, said after surfacing. "If there is a heaven, that would be it for them."

Back on the boat, the fam-

ily snacked on cookies and oranges and enjoyed a day at sea, laughing, hugging and crying at times. The men's aunt and uncle also brought red roses that each member of the family tossed overboard.

Daniel, 41, of Princeton, Texas, said he plans to get scuba-certified so he can see it up close, and return every year.

"I really didn't get it when (my mom) was telling me about it and the more and more I think about it, it's really a nice, peaceful spot for your last resting place," he said.

Hutslar and his partners were solely focused on supporting marine life at first, figuring the cemetery would help pay for the reef. But he's helped hundreds of families say goodbye to their loved ones over the years, giving him a calling he's come to cherish.

"This has actually become my favorite part — being with the families," said Hutslar.

Memorials for children especially stick in his mind. There's something healing about the ocean. He says you can see it when families return to the surface.

"You can watch something wash away," he said.

It happened again, Hutslar said, as Will Payne paid his final respects.

"I hope you're happy where you're at. I love you," Payne whispered through his mouthpiece. "Keep an eye on us."q



In this July 19, 2018 photo, Jim Hutslar, operations director for Neptune Memorial Reef, and Ray Lowenstein prepare to install a memorial plaque for Buel and Linda Payne, affixed to a cement baluster mixed with their ashes, at the Neptune Memorial Reef near Miami Beach, Fla.

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In this July 19, 2018 photo, a memorial plaque for Buel and Linda Payne, affixed to a cement baluster mixed with their ashes, is displayed near Miami Beach, Fla.

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